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INF PROPOSAL CONTINUES TO RECEIVE WORLD ATTENTION

Karpov on Soviet Stance

LD311327 Moscow TASS in English 1316 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- Viktor Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's arms control and disarmament department, made a following statement at a briefing for Soviet and foreign correspondents here today:

The White House several days ago issued a statement on behalf of the U.S. President on the results of the latest round of work by the group on medium-range nuclear arms at Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva.

An attempt to distort the Soviet negotiating position, the statement alleged, in particular, that it was a departure from the stand taken by the Soviet Union on the issue of missiles with a range of under 1,000 kilometers in Reykjavik. [sentence as received]

The Soviet Union has consistently stood for limiting and reducing such missiles and ultimately eliminating them altogether.

The Soviet side in Reykjavik expressed readiness to freeze missiles with a range of less than 1,000 kilometers and hold talks on their later fate.

The Soviet delegation in Geneva has abided by the same position.

It has made a proposal for the sides to freeze such missiles in Europe at their current levels and conduct negotiations on this class of arms.

The Soviet Union's readiness to press for a solution to the problem of theater missiles, including their reduction and elimination, has received added confirmation in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on February 28.

This goes to show, and this is the main thing, that the Soviet Union stands for resolving this issue by reducing and eliminating also this class of nuclear weapons.

What is the position of the American side? In Geneva it has been claiming the right, and this has been reflected also in the White House statement, to a U.S. buildup of short-range missiles on a global scale, in particular in Europe.

This is, as a matter of fact, what the differences in the side's positions basically come to.

The Soviet side has never given its consent to the buildup of such missiles because we must talk about ending the arms race rather than legalizing it.

The United States' approach to the theater missile issue assumes a special meaning also in the light of its strong insistence that its Pershing-2's, which would be liable to scrapping, be allowed to be converted into shorter-range missiles rather than destroyed.

It is clear that this would preserve also the possibility of their being reconverted back into medium-range missiles, that is effectively preserve the INF (intermediate nuclear force) potential in Europe.

Isn't this the fundamental reason why the American side has been making persistent attempts to bring the INF issue and the theater missile issue into the same knot?

Significantly, the White House devoted a substantial part of its statement to theater missiles rather than to how an agreement could be made easier to eliminate Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe.

This makes one wonder if it isn't an attempt to complicate efforts to attain this agreement at a time when the latest Soviet initiative has opened a real prospect for reaching it and the signs have emerged of practical movement towards it.

The Soviet side stands for discussing and resolving also the theater missile issue but it is against an INF agreement being artificially linked to a solution to this issue, the more so being made conditional on it.

Obstacles Discussed

PM261425 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 26 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[V. Katin article: "Obstacles to the Elimination of Medium-range Missiles"]

[Text] During the FRG Bundestag debate on Chancellor H. Kohl's government statement, Economics Minister Martin Bangemann urged that the disarmament proposals advanced by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, be treated very seriously. M. Bangemann warned against burdening the solution of the question of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe by advancing new parliamentary conditions.

At the same time, alarming information is coming from Britain. According to the British Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, there are grounds for believing that the deployment of American cruise missiles has begun at the Molesworth Air Base -- a year ahead of schedule.

The problem of medium-range missiles was also the focus of attention at British Prime Minister M. Thatcher's talks with F. Mitterrand and H. Kohl on the eve of her upcoming visit to the Soviet Union.

Our country is attentively following the reaction abroad to the proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe, analyzing that reaction, and drawing conclusions. To sum up the responses to that initiative, it is possible to state that, on the whole, a positive mood can be sensed among many American and West European leaders and politicians and the broad public.

Speaking on national television, U.S. President Ronald Reagan welcomed M.S. Gorbachev's statement.

French President Francois Mitterrand, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher regard the new Soviet proposal as opening up opportunities to make progress.

However, discordant statements are also to be heard, now here, now there. Claims that the Warsaw Pact Organization "has an advantage" in conventional arms and therefore the elimination of American Pershing-2 and cruise missiles will give it military superiority are appearing in the press of NATO countries, particularly the FRG. At what are such statements aimed? At dragging out and complicating the solution of the problem of medium-class missiles.

Let us take specific data. For example, those cited by the London International Institute for Strategic Studies and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. They attest that there is an overall balance of forces in terms of conventional arms between NATO and the Warsaw Pact Organization. And the Brookings Institute (United States) believes that the correlation of the two alliances' conventional forces is now even shaping up in the West's favor.

One more important circumstance: For all their equality, the two blocs' armed forces will never be able to be a mirror image of each other. One of them might have more of certain individual kinds of arms, and the other more of different ones, constituting a counterbalance. On the whole, however, on a global scale, approximate equilibrium exists here. And that is the chief thing.

At the same time, the opinions of NATO experts are not brushed aside in the Warsaw Pact countries. For it is clear that different estimates of the strength in conventional arms and manpower could slow down the process of reducing armed forces in Europe and create misunderstanding and difficulties. Is that really such an insuperable barrier in our age? We have only to unite the two sides' political will, and the Rubicon will be crossed. There are specific proposals for this.

A program for reducing armed forces and conventional arms was advanced at the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference in Budapest last July. It is proposed to carry out their reduction in Europe at agreed times, while constantly preserving military equilibrium at lower levels without detriment to anyone's security. As an initial step it is possible to make a one-time mutual reduction in the number of the military alliances' troops by 100,000-150,000 men on each side over 1-2 years. The number of tactical strike aircraft would be reduced within the framework of this measure. Immediately after this, the Warsaw Pact states are ready to make further significant reductions, as a result of which, given the NATO countries' reciprocal readiness, in the early nineties ground forces and tactical strike aircraft in Europe would be reduced by 25 percent compared with today's level. This reduction would total more than half a million men on each side.

This is a specific, perfectly realistic plan -- not difficult to fulfill -- for solving the problem of the "threat" from the Warsaw Pact's conventional armed forces. If this problem is really of concern to someone in NATO and if it is advanced sincerely and not in order to sideline the USSR's new proposal for the elimination of American and Soviet medium-range missiles on the continent, then it must be tackled immediately and solved quickly in a businesslike way. This will be a good test of the true intentions of Western leaders in respect to whether they want reliable security in Europe.

The linkage of the elimination of these missiles with the problem of short-range missiles is also advanced as an obstacle. Artificial obstacles are being created here! For M.S. Gorbachev's statement clearly says: As soon as an agreement to eliminate Soviet and American medium-range missiles in Europe is signed, the USSR will withdraw increased range operational and tactical missiles from the GDR and the CSSR by agreement with those countries' governments. As regards other missiles of this class, the USSR is prepared to begin talks at once with a view to reducing and totally eliminating them. So everything here has been provided for and thought out.

Fears that Western Europe will, you see, remain "defenseless" against Soviet shorter-range missiles are also completely farfetched. For there are thousands of American forward-based nuclear means close to the Soviet Union's borders. Let us add to this the U.S. allies' -- Britain and France -- own nuclear weapons. The result is a strange distortion in bookkeeping: Literally everything is taken into account for the USSR, starting with the number of bayonets, while quite a different approach is employed for the NATO armed forces.

In solving the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe the Soviet Union agrees not to touch either the American forward-based means or the Anglo-French nuclear potential. There is undoubtedly a certain risk here. This is being done exclusively in order to finally overcome the deadlock in the problem of clearing Europe of nuclear explosives. For you have to start somewhere, and erect an obstacle to the avalanche of nuclear arms at some time.

Semeyko on Adelman INF Article

PM301505 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 March 1987 First Edition carries on page 3 a "Political Debate" feature under the general heading "Europe Without Missiles: How Far Off?" It comprises a 900-word abbreviated reprint of a WASHINGTON POST article by Kenneth Adelman and an article by Lev Semeyko in response to it. The introduction to the feature reads as follows:

"Since the proposal in M.S. Gorbachev's 28 February statement on singling out the problem of medium-range missiles and solving it as soon as possible at talks, the issue has been at the center of world public attention. There have been a number of articles in the Western press in which one detects a desire by politicians to exaggerate the difficulties in the way of achieving an agreement and to prepare public opinion for delays at the Geneva talks.

"Today we are publishing a slightly abbreviated reprint of an article in THE WASHINGTON POST by U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Director K. Adelman and a commentary on it by the well known Soviet expert L. Semeyko, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace Disarmament Commission."

The Adelman article is an overview of the INF situation, answering critics of the Reagan administration's approach to the issue over the years and stressing its "serious" approach to arms control. He talks about the "very important" problems that are still to be settled and says that "we still have far to go."

Lev Semeyko's commentary reads as follows:

"It is just as difficult to find a coherent theme in K. Adelman's article as it is to find correct points. The leader of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency tries to demonstrate that in his sphere only a hard line is justified, although one would have thought that everyone would realize that compromises are the best way. Mr Adelman claims that 'considerable progress has been achieved' now at talks, and then, as if startled by his own optimism, he corrects himself: 'We still have far to go.' It creates a rather odd picture: Passages 'saluting' the hard-line approach to disarmament quickly develop into a 'requiem' for the prospects of eliminating nuclear weapons.

"But let us look at the substance of K. Adelman's arguments. He begins by obviously trying to justify Washington: He seeks the reason why the Reagan administration is the only one in recent decades to have failed to sign a single agreement with the USSR on curbing the arms race even in one and a half terms in office. Why? [paragraph continues]

Apparently, the 'obduracy of the Soviets' is to blame. And if this 'obduracy' is now a thing of the past, he says, then all credit to Reagan's policy -- tough and uncompromising!

"Let us say right away that the thesis of the need to pressure the USSR has become very fashionable in the West. But it is a mistake. To fail to understand the real reasons for a particular Soviet offer geared to promoting radical disarmament is to run the risk of making major policy errors.

"The Soviet Union made a concession when it accepted the U.S. 'zero option' on medium-range missiles in Europe. A considerable one, to be honest. But the point is that this was done not by any means because of U.S. pressure. One could even put it more strongly: It was in spite of it, in spite of the barriers the Americans have placed in the way of ridding Europe of nuclear weapons. In fact there is all too much evidence that Reagan's 'zero option' was put forward in the expectation that the USSR would not accept it and it would then be easier to accuse Moscow of 'obduracy.' Just one example: Those who in the early eighties in Western Europe and on the other side of the Atlantic advocated eliminating all medium-range missiles in Europe are now unhappy that this may happen. They are issuing appeals: Leave some U.S. missiles, let the missile formula of 100:100 for the Asian part of the USSR and U.S. territory operate in Europe as well; do not cut a single missile until the 'discrepancies' in other armaments are eliminated, and so forth.

"So the 'obduracy' is a two-edged weapon. The U.S. edge is there for all to see. Adelman's flirting with the criticism thesis is no accident. It is somewhat theatrical. Pity America, poor thing, forever being criticized, even for 'wanting to conclude an agreement' in the disarmament sphere.

"Now for the problem of SS-20 missiles. Adelman treats it as practically the only important aspect of European nuclear confrontation. But this problem is distorted in the West. The chief point is that SS-20 missiles have never threatened and are not threatening America because they cannot reach its territory. At the same time the U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles (and there are now 380 in Europe) are a direct threat to Soviet strategic facilities. On the false pretext of 'neutralizing' the SS-20's (but in fact in order to create a first-strike capability) the United States has continued to this day to deploy 'Euromissiles.' The talk of the 'obduracy of the Soviets' is a total distortion of reality. Had the United States gone along with the Soviet approach 6 years ago, the picture of nuclear confrontation in Europe would be completely different. And Adelman would not have to try to prove that all these years, you see, the United States has been dreaming about a Europe without medium-range missiles.

"One way or another, an agreement on medium-range missiles is now possible. Even in 6 months or so, according to the Soviet estimate, if Washington is willing. It is here that Adelman sounds totally at odds with his presentation of the 'SS-20 problem' as the key one. Apparently, hitherto 'both supporters and opponents have overemphasized the strategic and political significance of an agreement on intermediate-range nuclear forces,' whereas this agreement 'will not completely solve the problems of East-West relations' and so forth.

"He obviously wants the reader to think that if an agreement cannot be reached it is not so terrible. Then comes what appears to be Washington's number one song -- 'we still have far to go.' Why far? Because there is ever-increasing resistance among rightists and ultra-rightists in the West. Not for nothing is Adelman constantly trying to justify himself in the face of 'Atlanticists' criticism.

"K. Adelman's article is altogether highly typical. It is not only a well known 'hawk' speaking. It is, to all appearances, Washington's official view as well. And this has to be worrying for all who want to rid Europe of the deadly nuclear burden as soon as possible."

IZVESTIYA REPORTS OUTCOME OF NATO SCG SESSION

PM301542 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent V. Antonov report: "The Same Old Standpoints"]

[Text] Brussels — A session of the NATO Special Consultative Group (SCG) has been held at the North Atlantic Bloc's headquarters in Evere.

Supposedly, this group was originally set up to coordinate the positions of the Atlantic allies on the problems of medium-range nuclear arms in Europe. But the United States long ago turned it into a NATO propaganda organ designed to mislead world public opinion about the West's true goals in the nuclear arms control sphere.

It is clear from a communique issued here that the session was devoted to a discussion of the results of the seventh round of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms, held in Geneva, and in particular to the work of the group on medium-range nuclear arms, which is engaged in drafting the text of a treaty on medium-range missiles.

At a news conference, numerous foreign journalists who had gathered in Evere expected a concrete explanation of the NATO allies' standpoint on this question. A. Holmes, director of the U.S. State Department Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, who chaired the SCG session, tried to convince the representatives of the mass media that Washington and its NATO partners are supposedly interested in "constructive dialogue" at the talks and come out in favor of concluding a concrete agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe on the basis of Soviet and American proposals. This desire on the part of the Atlantic allies can only be welcomed, one would think. But at the same time he pointed out that the representatives of NATO countries on the SCG again confirmed the need to continue the planned siting of American Pershings and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

Answering journalists' questions, A. Holmes made it clear that, in the absence of a treaty with the USSR on medium-range missiles, the United States is interested in ensuring that all the bloc members adhere firmly to the NATO "missile decision" of 1979.

CHERVOV SPEAKS ON 'BELLIGERENT POLICY' OF U.S.

LD311249 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS — The threat to peace, not a mythical, but a real one, stems from the U.S. military machinery, from Washington's belligerent policy, its attempts to decide international affairs from the positions of strength, including with the use of the armed forces, Nikolay Chervov, chief of the Administration of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, told a briefing for Soviet and foreign newsmen today. He presented the fourth edition of the book "Whence the Threat to Peace", which proves by specific examples that it is precisely the United States which has appeared and continues appearing today as the instigator of the arms race.

The USA, Nikolay Chervov pointed out, was the first to create and practically use the atomic weapons, was the first to build nearly 2,000 heavy bombers in the 1950's, was the first to deploy in the 1960's nearly 1,000 ICBMS, the first to start fitting out ballistic missiles with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles, was the first to start building air, sea and land based cruise missiles. Beginning from 1970, the strategic potential of the USA grew three times over (from 5,000 to 15,000 warheads). Now the Pentagon is speedily implementing a programme worth billions of dollars for the chemical rearmament of America, is developing biological weapons, is out to put weapons into outer space as soon as possible and threaten the whole mankind from outer space.

Speaking on the pamphlet "Soviet Military Power", which was put out in Washington, Nikolay Chervov stressed that it gives an extremely distorted picture of the state of the weapons and Armed Forces of the USSR and the USA. Most of the figures cited in the pamphlet are garbled in such a way that no trace of objectivity is left.

A "sensational discovery", for example, is the attempt to prove that there is a "threat" from the Soviet Navy. In so doing they deliberately do not cite any figures of the U.S. Navy. Albeit it is known that the programme for increasing the number of U.S. warships to 600 units is being intensively implemented. In 1980, they had 479 ships. Now they have 580 ships, meanwhile the number of attack submarines has increased from 73 to 105. At hand is not a "disbalance", but a "tilt" in favour of the USA.

Any attempts of the USA at upsetting in its favour the military balance hold no promise, Nikolay Chervov said. They will lead only to a new spiral of the arms race. A source of special danger is the SDI programme. Its implementation will destroy the ABM Treaty, the arms race will get out of control and humanity may find itself trapped. Those who decide the policy of the USA should look at the situation, which has shaped, in an unbiased manner, take, at least, a realistic stand which would make it possible to divert from humanity the danger of nuclear destruction. [sentence as received]

U.S. GENERAL URGES LIFTING OF BAN ON ASAT TESTING

LD290710 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 29 Mar 87

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Aleksandr Korshunov]

[Text] The Pentagon is demanding that the militarization of space be accelerated. This conclusion follows from a UPI report from Washington. A high-ranking figure of the U.S. war department, General Piotrowski, commander in chief of the unified North American Air and Space Defense Command, speaking in the Senate tried to prove the need for the United States to conduct more aggressive activities in the use of near-earth space for military purposes. The general said that the United States should safeguard its legitimate interests in space in exactly the same way that they do on land, at sea or in the atmosphere. The Pentagon spokesman urged the lifting of the temporary restrictions on the testing of the ASAT anti-satellite system that have been imposed by Congress.

Incidentally, a directive of Secretary of Defense Weinberger dated the beginning of February this year, the existence of which emerged a few days ago, provides for the speedy deployment of the ASAT system and preparations for the creation of combat space stations in orbit.

NAZARKIN ADDRESSES DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

LD311230 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Geneva March 31 TASS -- The texts of the communique of the foreign ministers' committee meeting of the Warsaw Treaty member states, the statement for the development of the all-European process and successful completion of the Vienna meeting, the statements by the Warsaw Treaty member states on the question of the prohibition of chemical weapons have been issued at the Disarmament Conference as official documents today.

Addressing the plenary meeting of the conference, U.K. Nazarkin, head of the USSR delegation, stressed that the documents adopted in Moscow, are evidence of the further persevering efforts by the Warsaw Treaty member states aimed at putting an end to the weapons race, reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons, preventing the militarization of outer space aimed at scrapping chemical weapons and the industrial base for their production, a cut in the armed forces in Europe.

EXPERT SAYS NUCLEAR PROGRAM BASED ON MINIMUM

LD301836 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1345 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 30 March (TASS) -- We do not intend to copy the U.S. nuclear program which is aimed in particular at creating space-based weapons. But the Soviet side cannot fail to be concerned about maintaining strategic parity with the United States, writes Major General Geliy Batenin, an expert at the USSR Ministry of Defense in the latest issue of the APN VOENNY VESTNIK.

The Soviet test program proceeds from the minimum necessary -- in the face of the U.S. position -- for fundamental research, national economic aims, verifying equipment and weapons for their resistance to the strike factors of a nuclear explosion, including resistance against those systems which are being developed as part of SDI plans, continues the author. Twenty-six explosions without response is a very large number. It is indeed a danger. The United States is developing six new types of strategic offensive systems. Experiments are continuing on nuclear triggered laser weapons within the framework of the SDI program. In terms of overall numbers of nuclear tests, the United States is at least one third ahead of the Soviet Union.

On 12 March the U.S. State Departments presented the Soviet ambassador in Washington with a memorandum asserting that during the underground nuclear test at the site near Semipalatinsk there was allegedly a leak of "radioactive particles which reached places outside the USSR" into the atmosphere. This assertion is a lie. In conducting underground nuclear explosions we took every precaution, completely hindering the release into the atmosphere of so-called "radioactive particles." First and foremost conditions for the depth at which the charge was buried were precisely observed, and other technical measures were taken aimed at excluding radioactive fallout.

The Soviet Union is an honest partner and attributes serious significance to strict and unswerving observance of all international agreements. We see the treaty signed in Moscow in 1963 as an important instrument in limiting the nuclear arms race and maintaining stability, stressed Geliy Batenin.

'MEMORANDUM' ON 26 FEB NUCLEAR TEST ANSWERS U.S.

PM301411 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Memorandum From the USSR Embassy in Washington"]

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in Washington has handed the U.S. State Department a memorandum in response to the latter's claim of release of radioactive waste during a nuclear explosion in the USSR on 26 February 1987, and their spread beyond Soviet territory.

The memorandum stressed that a careful check by competent Soviet organizations had confirmed that every essential safety measure had been taken to prevent radioactive disintegration products from escaping into the atmosphere during the test explosion.

The Soviet Union's national monitoring systems have confirmed the complete absence of any radioactive discharges.

The U.S. claims that the USSR is not living up to the 1963 treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water are therefore without grounds and so these grievances have been flatly dismissed.

One is prompted to ask about the American side's motives in making such groundless claims.

It is noteworthy that the American allegations connected with the 26 February nuclear explosion were made at the same time as the President sent to Congress a report on "Soviet noncompliance with arms control agreements" which falsely accused the Soviet Union of breaching treaties.

This serves to confirm the biased nature of the U.S. claims.

The memorandum stressed in conclusion that there could have been no Soviet nuclear explosion at all if the United States had joined a Soviet moratorium on nuclear blasts.

As is well known, the United States continued its nuclear test program, exploding 26 nuclear devices while the moratorium was in effect.

The irresponsible U.S. policy has compelled the Soviet Union to discontinue its unilateral moratorium.

However, the USSR reiterates that it is prepared to resume the moratorium any day and month when the United States declares a stop to its nuclear testing.

U.S., UK REFUSAL TO SIGN RAROTONGA TREATY VIEWED

OW230507 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 22 Mar 87

["Short article" by station commentator (Shakhov) from the "Current Events and Commentaries" program]

[Text] About 100 years ago, British Prime Minister Disraeli declared that Britain is always right, even if it commits a crime. Around that time, U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt also explicitly expounded a similar view toward foreign policy.

[Text] About 100 years ago, British Prime Minister Disraeli declared that Britain is always right, even if it commits a crime. Around that time, U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt also explicitly expounded a similar view toward foreign policy. He said: If a certain international agreement contradicts our imperialist strategic objective, then we should ignore or destroy it. The era when British and U.S. imperialist elements lorded it over others without restraint on this good earth, including the Asia-Pacific region, is over. However, imperialist and hegemonic ambition is still the foundation of their policies today. The decision of the British and the U.S. Governments not to commit themselves to observing the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in South Pacific is a case in point.

As we know, the Rarotonga Treaty was formulated in 1985 and was signed by Australia, New Zealand, and other South Pacific island states. The Soviet Union and the PRC are committed to observing this treaty, but the United States, Britain, and France refused to conform to the will of countries in that region. Why? Because Western countries, in principle, are opposed to all treaties concerning the establishment of nuclear-free zones. They have denounced ASEAN's proposal to declare Southeast Asia a nuclear-free zone, and do not support the DPRK Government's proposal to establish a nuclear-free zone on the Korean Peninsula.

Washington is angry at the New Zealand Government and has applied pressure on the latter because nuclear-armed U.S. warships are denied access to New Zealand ports. The Soviet Union, China, the DPRK, and other socialist countries, as well as most developing countries in the Asian-Pacific region advocate the elimination of the nuclear threat, but the imperialist countries have demonstrated that they intend to use nuclear threat as the basis of their global strategy.

SCIENTISTS, EXPERTS MEET ON BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

LD311754 Moscow TASS in English 1741 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Geneva March 31 TASS -- A meeting of scientific and technical experts of the states participating in the convention on the prohibition of bacteriological weapons has opened here today. The experts will consider exchanges of information as a measure of building trust, increasing the prestige of the convention and broadening international cooperation.

The meeting will close on April 15.

U.S. CONDUCTS PERSHING-2 TESTS AT CAPE CANAVERAL

LD250939 Moscow TASS in English 0812 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Washington March 25 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev:

The Pentagon held a fresh test of first-strike Pershing-2 missiles in conditions close to combat ones. A series of six launchings of the medium-range missiles against targets at a distance of several hundreds of miles in the Atlantic Ocean was fired for two and a half hours from mobile launchers stationed in Cape Canaveral (Florida).

As a spokesman for the test range said, one of the objectives of the testing was to check on the combat preparedness of the crews of American missile launching pads.

PRAVDA REVIEW OF WEEK'S INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PM310851 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

["International Review" column by Igor Melnikov]

[Text] Against Scholasticism [subhead]

The past week was a short but very active time in international life. During the week, statesmen, politicians, and public figures in East and West expanded the platforms from which they intend to embark on the resolution of the urgent problem of the day -- ensuring mankind's survival. The truly universal scale of the task dictates a high pace, and any loss of time -- large or small -- is dangerous. It is necessary to immediately bring international relations and the behavior of governments and states into line with the realities of the nuclear age.

Thus it is quite obvious that the aim is the same for everyone, it is common to all mankind. Unfortunately, the approaches of the sides -- and this is also quite obvious -- are different and hard to reduce to a common denominator. The West is demonstrating a clear adherence to scholasticism on questions of nuclear disarmament.

This week's Moscow session of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states was proof of the mobile, forward-looking restructuring of political thinking and international relations. On what did the ministers' 2-day discussion focus? On the quest for new opportunities to step up joint efforts aimed at ending the arms race, ensuring military detente on the continent, and developing the all-European process. This quest was embodied in the documents adopted at the meeting.

The present Foreign Ministers' Committee session was distinguished by its participants' profound conviction of the need to boost everyone's initiative in implementing the jointly formulated line. During a detailed comradely conversation with the ministers, M.S. Gorbachev dwelt on the need to make the work of the Foreign Ministers' Committee even more dynamic and fruitful to ensure that this important tool for coordinating the fraternal socialist countries' foreign policy activity fully accords with the growing and increasingly complex tasks in the world arena and the broadening opportunities for socialism's peace-loving policy to influence the world's destiny.

One cannot deny the importance and urgency of any of the 12 paragraphs in the communique of the Foreign Ministers' Committee session. It is by no means accidental that it presents a detailed and well-argued approach to the problem of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe. The idea of the immediate signing of a separate agreement between the USSR and the United States whereby U.S. and Soviet "Euromissiles" would be completely eliminated is surging through government cabinets and the headquarters of the continent's leading political parties. Populations in all states without exception support the Soviet Union's initiative and welcome its readiness immediately after the signing of such an agreement to withdraw increased-range operational and tactical missiles from the GDR and Czechoslovakia by agreement with those countries' governments. As for other operational and tactical missiles, the USSR is prepared to embark immediately on talks aimed at reducing and totally eliminating them. The speedy conclusion of an agreement on medium-range missiles would open up the way to completely ridding Europe of nuclear weapons.

Missile Tightrope Walkers [subhead]

Certain Washington officials would gladly consign our country's initiative to the trash can, but you can hardly do that under the piercing gaze of the world's public. Whether they like it or not, they will have to respond.

Let us see what kind of response there may be.

After the initial, quite favorable reaction to the Soviet proposal, there was a pause in Washington. It was needed -- such things have happened more than once in the past -- to regroup. Soon "counter-moves" followed. The tone of one clearly propagandist direction in them was set by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Addressing the Trilateral Commission, representatives of big business and retired statesmen, in San Francisco, he stated that the elimination of medium-range missiles could lead to "political and psychological inequality and give the Soviets a stronger position with regard to West Europe."

While all 300 of the confused representatives of the Old and New Worlds and Japan (and with them the many publications that featured this UPI report) tried to come to grips with Kissinger's "half-baked" ideas, another, no longer propagandist, counterattack followed. A statement by the U.S. Army deputy chief of staff was made public. If an agreement on Euromissiles is reached with the Soviet Union, he said, the U.S. Army intends to turn NATO's medium-range missiles sited in Europe into short-range missiles.

A few days later it became known that what he had said was not the fruit of the general's fevered imagination. It is actually Washington's official position at the Geneva talks. The proposals submitted by the U.S. side envisage the possible reequipping of Pershing-2 missiles as missiles of less than medium range.

Doing this at a Pentagon base somewhere in the FRG is no more complicated than removing a U.S. sergeant's appendix in an army hospital. A recent issue of THE WASHINGTON POST literally stated the following: "The Pershings can be modified by removing one of their stages and making slight changes to the electronic equipment in the delivery vehicle and warhead. Martin Marietta Corporation, which produces the missiles, has all the necessary documentation and has worked out the technological process for carrying out the modification."

If things take that turn, virtually all 108 Pershing-2's will remain in Europe along with their service installations. In the Pentagon's plan, the cruise missiles sited in Europe are to be fitted to surface ships and submarines, for instance, rather than destroyed.

To what do the nuclear tightrope walkers' exercises attest? Just one thing: The Pentagon essentially does not want to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe, and the "zero option" has seemingly been seen by the Washington administration as a bluff from the very outset.

If Agreement Is To Be Reached, Then It Must Be in Earnest [subhead]

Again and again life brings us back to the question of Europe's place in contemporary international life and the degree of trust among us Europeans. The experience built up on the continent during the detente years teaches us convincingly that trust has to be created through the experience of cooperation, through mutual acquaintance, and through the solution of common questions. [paragraph continues]

It is wrong to argue that trust must come first and everything else -- disarmament, cooperation, joint projects -- will follow. Trust has to be approached via common concerns.

Yesterday saw the start of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to the Soviet Union. The forthcoming talks in Moscow are awaited with interest not just in London or in our country -- this trip by the British stateswoman has in fact been preceded by solid groundwork on a whole range of major problems.

It goes without saying that the aspect of bilateral relations between our countries is fundamental. Suffice it to recall the major contacts that British industrialists have concluded with Soviet partners, the mutually enriching collaboration among scientists from the two countries, and our ballet company's recent triumph in England. The session of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, which opened in Moscow on Wednesday, has assisted efforts to make new business contacts.

But who can ignore the problems of security nowadays? It was for good reason that our British guest went to Paris and Bonn to discuss this on the very eve of the Moscow visit. In both capitals she had "a very intensive exchange of opinions." Her interlocutors were President F. Mitterrand and Chancellor H. Kohl.

Europeans are essentially united in the realization that medium-range missiles must be removed from the continent's territory. That is what the peoples want. That is what the West European capitals state. But, if that is the case, then why, one wonders, are the NATO states in no hurry to start right away on rooting out [vykorchevyvaniye] missiles which they themselves have called for rooting out? Instead they are looking for ways around doing it and for loopholes. An appeal has been launched for the strengthening of "European defense" and the creation of an additional pillar for NATO, almost as if in response to... the elimination of medium-range missiles. What is more, the construction lot designated for this "pillar" is not in fact NATO or even the Western European Union, but the entire sphere of the "Common Market," which, as we know, has up to now not been deemed a suitable forum for the discussion of military-political problems.

Without question, the Western capitals have managed to muddy the waters considerably since the Soviet Union put forward its crystal-clear proposal on eliminating medium-range missiles! As for our country, it is ready to eliminate all medium-range missiles in Europe -- all 243 SS-20's -- and to destroy them together with the launch installations [puskovyye ustanovki]. But the United States must do the same. This makes it necessary for the missiles to be dismantled and destroyed under strict monitoring [kontrol]. This applies both to the bases where the missiles are and to the factories where they are manufactured.

Disgrace of the Tartuffes [subhead]

The 29th session of the Committee on Human Rights started work in Geneva's Palais des Nations last week. This organization should not be confused with the UN Commission on Human Rights. It is small in comparison with that committee -- it comprises 18 expert lawyers. The committee examines reports from states on their fulfillment of their commitments in observing and implementing human rights and freedoms. Its purview also covers questions of the right of peoples and ethnic groups to self-determination, the human right to live in peace, and the banning of propaganda of war and racism. This time the session will examine reports from Poland, Tunisia, Ecuador, Senegal, and El Salvador.

I once witnessed the committee's work in Geneva. I remember the responsibility with which the Soviet delegation approached its report and how well founded its answers were to the specialists' varied questions. The delegations from the leading Western states, which are not averse to lecturing and sometimes simply "judging" other countries -- imputing human rights violations to them -- by no means always looked confident.

It is no secret that the human rights question is a key issue in the historic competition between the two systems of socialism and capitalism. The extent of individual development and rights does indeed make it possible to judge the genuine values of certain societies. Yes, we recognize that Soviet society has still not reached the ideal but -- and this is particularly noticeable at the time of restructuring -- it stands head and shoulders above the West as far as human rights are concerned.

Let us look at some simple arithmetic. If the riches of U.S. multimillionaires were divided equally among all Americans each family of four would receive \$100,000. But, of course, such a "share-out" is sheer utopia. Other figures show the reality. In the richest capitalist country the growth in poverty outstrips the growth in millionaires. Almost 15 million people have lost their jobs and, consequently, their basic livelihood. Yes, they are free to seek work. But nobody either today or tomorrow can tell them how this "freedom" will help them to eat and lead a meaningful life, or protect them from discrimination.

Shield for the "Contras" [subhead]

The following item was published by THE NEW YORK TIMES the other day. Its correspondent reported that U.S. Armed Forces officers had said that the Pentagon will stage in May a major show of strength in Central America in which 50,000 servicemen will be involved. The exercises will coincide with the "spring offensive" which the Nicaraguan "contras" are planning to launch.

The maneuvers' code name sounds decent enough -- "Solid Shield." Who will the U.S. Marines be protecting with their solid shield? The staff scenarios, the newspaper notes, plan to "rehearse a U.S. response to a Honduran request for assistance in a struggle against the Nicaraguan Armed Forces."

So Washington is still bent on action. It is still infuriated that a small Central American country is continuing to go its own way, remaining independent and freedom-loving. The U.S. military, espionage, and diplomatic departments are prepared to launch any provocation in order to smash it. Figures pertaining to the State Department's complicity in providing military aid to the "contras" during the congressional ban on such aid have just become known. Shultz' men made "exceptional payments" to a company that had been teetering on the brink of bankruptcy -- International Business Communications -- which has close links with the "contras."

Exposes of Washington's "legal" and illegal support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries are emerging one after another. Support for what, one wonders? For an endless series of killings, torture, and outrages against the peaceful population. A document issued by the Center for Constitutional Rights organization was published in New York this week. It is impossible to read unmoved about the "contra" bandits' bestial violence against a 14-year-old girl or about the 3 boys tortured in full view of their 85-year-old grandmother.

Incidentally, if we are going to dot the "i's" we must say that in the counterrevolutionary camp itself there is no unity or conviction about the need to continue the struggle. A few days ago, Fernando Chamorro, military leader of the "contras" active on the country's southern borders, announced his withdrawal from the "Nicaraguan Opposition Union" and the end of his armed struggle against the Sandinistas. Such events cause alarm in U.S. Administration circles. As recently as last Thursday, Defense Secretary Weinberger in a public speech to businessmen railed against those who "see the dispute in the Nicaraguan Opposition Union leadership as the death knell for the 'contra' struggle."

Even the sworn enemies of revolutionary Nicaragua are realizing the futility of war against their own people. But when will that simple truth finally impinge on the masters of the White House?

BRIEFS

AIR ROUTE AGREEMENTS — Today accords were signed by Boris Pavlovich Bugayev, the minister of civil aviation, and the ambassadors of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, on an expansion in air links between the Scandinavian countries and the Soviet Union, as well as on flights by the SAS airline on the Trans-Siberian route. Tomorrow, there will be a similar signing ceremony for flights by the KLM and Aeroflot airline companies on the Trans-Siberian route. The frequency of flights is increasing between Moscow and Delhi. The wide-bodied IL-86 planes are being introduced to operate on the routes to Delhi, Singapore, and Kuala Lumpur. It should also be emphasized that the Soviet Union is expecting an active expansion in the geography of flights between our country and the socialist countries. New routes are being introduced, in particular, the Moscow-Split route, the Tashkent-Prague route, and a number of other air routes to socialist countries. [Summary] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1425 GMT 30 Mar 87 LD]

FRANCE'S CHIRAC VISITS U.S., DISCUSSES INF

LDO10619 Moscow TASS in English 0551 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Washington 1 April TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

East-West relations and arms control dominated at White House talks between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, here on a two-day official visit Tuesday.

The talks also involved U.S. Vice-President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, the president's national security adviser Frank Carlucci and White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker.

U.S. officials said one issue that had been discussed in detail was the intermediate-range nuclear force (INF) in Europe.

Judging by remarks by a high-ranking official spokesman, the U.S. Administration, which has been seeking to link an INF agreement artificially with the issue of shorter-range missiles, reaffirmed that posture.

It means in point of fact a renunciation of cuts in nuclear armories in Europe and an intention to beef them up by deploying American theater missiles.

In other words, Washington is again pressing its oft-repeated but absurd "bulldown" formula, meaning progress to arms reduction talks through an arms buildup.

The official U.S. spokesman reported agreement on this point at the White House talks.

DIRECTIVE ORDERS SECURITY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION

LDO10541 Moscow TASS in English 0522 GMT 1 Apr 87

[Text] Washington 1 April TASS -- President Reagan issued a special directive on Tuesday authorising changes in the National Security Council, NSC, in accordance with the recommendations of the Tower Commission which probed its role in the Iran-contra operation.

The text of the directive was sent to members of the U.S. Congress. In a letter to the Congress Reagan noted that the document he signed sanctioned certain procedures aimed at improving the work of National Security Council to avoid the repetition of mistakes and abuses made during the Iran-contra operation. In his directive the head of the White House ordered the NSC staff to review all covert operations carried out by the United States at present by the April 30 deadline.

DPRK TRADE UNIONIST COMMENTS ON ANNIVERSARY VISIT

SK310753 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] The logging workers of the Soviet Union and Korea recently observed a significant day. It has been 20 years since the signing of the USSR-DPRK agreement on jointly logging timber in the Soviet Far East. Among those participating in the celebrations of this event in the Soviet Union was a delegation from the Korean construction and forestry workers' trade union led by its vice chairman (Kim Chung-kuk). He told the station reporter the following:

[Begin (Kim Chung-kuk) recording] I thank you for your kindly invitation to our delegation to participate in the celebrations to mark the 20th anniversary of the signing of the DPRK-USSR agreement on the harvesting of construction timber and to visit the Soviet Union.

With the hospitality accorded us by the fraternal Soviet (?Timber, Paper, and Woodworking Industry Workers' Union) and workers, our delegation has successfully completed our scheduled visit to your country and will return home.

During our visit to your country, we were deeply impressed. Above all, as we participated in the celebrations to mark the 20th anniversary of the signing of the DPRK-USSR agreement for the joint harvesting of timber held in the village of (Chekdomen) on 6 March, we were able to personally witness how excellently the fraternal friendly and cooperative relations between the working classes and people of Korea and the Soviet Union have developed and how firm these relations are. I still vividly recall the scene in the village of (Chekdomen) where the workers of the forestry sector of Korea and the Soviet Union jointly sang the song of friendship and unity at the top of their voices. The song of friendship and unity which rang out highly on the stage of the Friendship Hall will remain unchanged, although the rivers and mountains may change.

While visiting many places, such as Moscow, [passage indistinct], during our visit to the Soviet Union, we met many trade union functionaries and workers, exchanged beneficial opinions, and came to understand the valuable experiences and successes attained by the Soviet timber production sector.

The working class of the Soviet forestry sector are waging a vigorous struggle to greet the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution with high political enthusiasm and labor success. We were able to personally witness that the workers of the Soviet forestry sector are increasing labor productivity based on their high scientific and technological success, producing good quality products, and working in an environment where the working conditions and living conditions are well provided.

Through our meetings with trade union functionaries and workers of the enterprises and cultural institutions we have visited, we came to be convinced that the Soviet workers, having firm faith in the justness of their party's policy, will carry out the programmatic task set forth by the 27th party congress under the leadership of the CPSU headed by the respected Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

During our visit to your country, we were able to personally witness that the Soviet working class and people are actively struggling, prompted by the noble sense of responsibility of saving mankind from the danger of nuclear holocaust and defending the lasting peace and security of the world. Truly, the impression we received during our visit to your country is endless. When we return to our country, I will convey the impressions of our delegation during our stay in the Soviet Union.

The friendly and cooperative relations between the people of our two countries which have deep historical roots and have been strengthened and developed over a protracted period for a common objective and ideal developed comprehensively onto a new higher stage according to the spirit of agreement between the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and the Soviet party and state leaders during the meetings and talks between them when the great leader visited the Soviet Union in 1984 and 1986.

It is the consistent aspiration and will of all the workers and people of our country to continuously strengthen and develop the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union based on relations of class alliance. We will wage a struggle together with the fraternal Soviet people forever on the single road of joint struggle to oppose imperialism and on behalf of peace, socialism, and communism.

Finally, I once again express my gratitude to the Soviet (?Timber, Paper, and Woodworking Industry Workers Union) and workers for their kind invitation to our delegation and for their warm hospitality, and wish them great success in their work. [end recording]

TASS NOTES NAKASONE REFUSAL TO ADDRESS U.S. CONGRESS

LD311119 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo March 31 TASS — TASS correspondent Aleksandr Anichkin reports:

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan has declined an invitation to speak at the joint session of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress during his visit overseas. Nobuo Matsunaga, Japan's ambassador to the United States, officially informed the U.S. side about this.

The move, as unexpected as this one, was caused by Tokyo's dissatisfaction with the anti-Japanese resolutions adopted by both houses of Congress, the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI reports today. The documents forced President Reagan to impose a 100-per cent tax on key types of the Japanese electronic industry products supplied to the United States.

The current crisis has highlighted the Japanese economy's dependence on the United States to which one third of Japanese export is delivered. The Tokyo foreign exchange market reacted to the exacerbation of relations with the American partner by the sharpest ever decline in the share rate. The Nikkei index, an aggregate indicator of the state of business in the country's leading corporations dropped 550 points down in one day. Monday.

News filtered into press today that the state bank of Japan spent two billion dollars last Monday to arrest a new rise in the yen's value. But this too has failed to stem the U.S. currency from hitting the post-war low.

Tokyo is frenziedly on the lookout for ways to prevent the conflict from heightening. The International Trade and Industry Ministry approached the United States with the request to start without delay consultations on ironing out differences around trade in semiconductors.

The foreign minister intends to go to the United States earlier than was agreed upon to incur instead of the prime minister the barbs of U.S. critics. By the way, even the Japanese ambassador does not believe that the crisis can be settled now. The conflict has outgrown from an economic to a political one, Matsunaga warned.

PAKISTANI FIGHTERS DOWN AFGHAN CIVILIAN AIRLINER

LD311805 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Kabul March 31 TASS -- Two Pakistani Air Force fighters shot down by rockets an Afghan airliner, Antonov-26, carrying forty passengers and crew members, including two children, on March 30, BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reported today.

The plane was flying from Kabul to the Khowst Region and was attacked by Pakistani aircraft above the District of Zamqani, Paktia Province.

The BAKHTAR report said that the Afghan Foreign Ministry resolutely protested to Pakistan's charge d'affaires over the criminal action that violated all accepted international standards.

The Afghan Foreign Ministry demanded that the Pakistani Government immediately stop acts of this kind and the heightening of tension in relations between the two countries.

Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil sent a letter to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in which he informed him of the Pakistani criminal action.

PAKISTAN, IRAN 'HAMPERED' DRA REFUGEES' RETURN

LD311129 Moscow TASS in English 1022 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Kabul March 31 TASS -- Four people died and several passers-by were badly injured in a bomb explosion set off in the biggest mosque of Qandahar, the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reports. These crimes, committed by anti-government groupings in Afghanistan, can be traced to the neighbouring countries of Iran and Pakistan, the news agency says. It is via Pakistan that the United States is supplying Afghan counterrevolutionaries with Stinger anti-aircraft missiles with which two airliners were shot down this year. Over a hundred subversion centres have been set up in Pakistani territory. There are also such centres in Tehran, Qom, Mashhad, Esfahan and elsewhere in Iran.

Thirty-five thousand refugees have returned to Afghanistan after the proclamation of the policy of national reconciliation. This figure might have been much bigger had not this process been hampered by the Pakistani and Iranian authorities. As is said in a message sent by Abdul Wakil, foreign minister of Afghanistan, to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Pakistani side has not given a positive reply to the Afghan Government's request for arranging special chartered flights for those willing to return home to Afghanistan. Afghan refugees say that counterrevolutionary groupings in the territory of Afghanistan are holding back all those who wish to return home. Not infrequently, their official applications to the authorities end up with their arrest, imprisonment or, sometimes, even execution. The Afghans willing to leave Iran have far more chances, instead of going home, to get to the front where they are forcibly sent as cannon fodder in a protracted war against Iraq.

Repeated requests addressed by the Afghan side to its neighbours for holding talks on disputed matters do not meet with a positive response. Some favourable advances were achieved at the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva through a personal representative of the U.N. secretary general. But then came accusations from Islamabad describing Afghanistan as "aggressive," BAKHTAR says. As to the Iranian authorities, they refuse altogether to take part in any talks with the Afghan Government.

SHEVARDNADZE, INDIAN ENVOY DISCUSS RELATIONS

PM301511 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] On 28 March Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of foreign affairs, received Triloki Nath Kaul, the ambassador of the Indian Republic to the USSR, at his request.

In the course of the conversation, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, an exchange of opinions on matters of Soviet-Indian relations and on some topical international problems took place. Special attention was paid to the consideration of the process of fulfillment of the accords that had been achieved during the official and friendly visit of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in November 1986.

The sides noted that the implementation of the proposal of the USSR on the elimination of Soviet and American medium-range missiles in Europe will become an important step along the path toward curtailing the nuclear arms race and reducing the threat of a war.

In the course of the exchange of opinions, questions related to the atmosphere in the Asia-Pacific Ocean region were touched on. It was noted that both the USSR and India have been making efforts to reduce the level of tension in Asia and to break the deadlock in the conflict situation existing there. It was confirmed that both countries aim for further expansion and improvement in their interaction on the international arena in the interests of consolidating peace and security and the affirmation in relations among states of the principles of a world free from nuclear weapons and violence.

MARCHUK HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON INDIA VISIT

LD301532 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1130 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 30 Mar (TASS) -- Eighteen issues are to form the basis of a long-term joint program of Soviet-Indian cooperation, said Guriy Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences at a news conference in Moscow today. He recently returned from India where he headed a delegation of Soviet scientists consisting of 15 academicians including Aleksandr Yanshin, Boris Paton, Georgiy Skryabin, and Roald Sagdeyev.

During the trip, the Soviet scientists were acquainted with the scientific potential of India which occupies the third place in the world for the number of workers in science. During talks plans were laid down for cooperation in the development of joint themes in, among other things, oceanology, geophysics, seismology, biotechnology, medicine, the study of outer space, laser technology, and spectroscopies.

There have been proposals to organize joint laboratories, broaden the exchange of scientists and to arrange systematic lectures on various problems. We attach special significance to exchanging scientific information, in particular, to publishing joint papers, said Marchuk.

During meetings with our Indian colleagues, we agreed to expand research into seismology, said Aleksandr Yanshin, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The point is that India is situated on a geotectonic plate which for many years now has been slowly but steadily moving north -- according to data from some research -- by 3 cm per year. The process of mountain formation is continuing in the Himalayas today. The displacement of the Earth's crust in this geological region was first noticed several years ago on the territory of the USSR, in Tajikistan, recalled Yanshin.

A group of scientists from India is to visit the USSR in June to hear about the scientific achievements of Soviet specialists. Following this the long-term cooperation program is to be signed, in addition to the existing plans.

Sale of Supercomputer

BK281224 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 22 Mar 87 p 16

[Text] New Delhi, March 21 -- The Soviet Union said today it was prepared to sell to India the supercomputer it has developed "but wants details like safeguards and commercial aspects to be worked out on a government-to-government basis".

This was indicated by academician Guriy Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and leader of the high-level scientific delegation at the end of the plenary session of Indo-Soviet talks on Science and Technology Co-operation.

He told newsmen the supercomputer "has been developed and the scale of production is the only question now". It has now 100,000 million bytes per second and this is to be stepped up to 10 billion bytes by 1995. [Figures as published] The Soviets have already agreed to give one million bytes type to Comecon, the East bloc common market, by 1990.

High-level Indian and Soviet delegation of scientists have been holding talks here over the past few days to chalk out specific areas of cooperation in science and technology until 2000 AD. The meeting is a fallout of the discussion held in November last between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The 31-member Indian delegation was headed by Dr C.N.R. Rao, chairman of the Science Advisory Committee to the Prime Minister, while academician Marchuk headed the Soviet team, which included 24 top scientists.

The bilateral talks have led to the identification of number of project oriented activities in selected areas. These include biotechnology and immunology, materials science and technology, lessers, catalysis, space science and technology, synchrotron radiation and water prospecting in from deep sources.

The two sides have also agreed to further strengthen the extensive programme in basic science between the Indian National Science Academy and the USSR Academy of Sciences. These include areas of earth sciences, physics, mathematics, chemistry and biology.

In the new programme, greater attention will be focused in selected areas of mathematics, geological and geophysical studies, radio physics and astrophysics, ecology and environmental sciences, chemical and ocean sciences.

The two sides also agreed to continue work in the area of coal-based magneto hydrodynamics power generation. They will also take up other areas of technology like high voltage transmission (AC and DC) and instrumentation. Wherever possible, exchange of technological knowhow in areas of mutual interest and benefit to both countries would be explored in sectors of machine building and chemical industry.

As regards work on immunology, the two sides have offered to work on developing a vaccine for combating AIDS. Surprisingly, Mr Gorbachev's proposal for an international space centre in India -- an idea that he mooted during his last November visit here -- did not come up for discussion during the talks. Asked why, Indian officials said "this was just a preliminary round, probably it may figure in future discussions."

Agreed minutes were signed by the leaders of the two delegations. Two memoranda of understanding were also signed for the organisation of scientific and technical exhibition in the two countries as parts of the Festival of India in the USSR and the Festival of Russia in India during 1987-88. These documents were signed by Dr Vasant Gowariker, secretary to the Department of Science and Technology from the Indian side and Dr A. Kamenev, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology from the Soviet side.

MOSCOW HINDI NOTES MARXISTS WIN STATE ELECTIONS

BK271335 Moscow in Hindi to India 1130 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The media of India and other countries are commenting on the outcome of the elections in the Indian states of West Bengal, Kerala, and Jammu and Kashmir. Soviet newspapers reported that more than 70 percent of the electorate participated in the state assembly elections in these three states. This proves that the people of these states took great interest in the elections.

The election manifestos of the various parties and fronts like Congress-I and CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] clearly showed their goal of promoting a peaceful foreign policy. More than 50 million people in the three states voted in favor of such a policy which reflects the feeling of the entire nation. The citizens of India's northern, eastern and southern regions raised their voice in favor of ending the arms race and making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

The outcome of the elections reflected the traditional sympathy for the parties and the fronts. The National Conference-Congress-I alliance in Jammu and Kashmir received an overwhelming majority. Observers say that the continued development of this border state and the guarantee of the territorial integrity of the country are the main planks of the alliance which received the people's mandate in the elections.

West Bengal electorates once again supported representatives of the Left Front. They elected the representatives of the CPI-M-led Left Democratic Front for the third time. Indian newspapers report that the electorates supported the government's land reforms and increase in wages for farm laborers. There is a school in every village of West Bengal, one-fourth of the state's budget is spent on education, harmony prevails between different communities, and scheduled castes' rights are protected. All these reforms by the Left Front enjoy popular support. Efforts are being made in West Bengal to promote energy and other industries.

In the Kerala elections the Left Democratic Front also emerged victorious. It will form the government after a lapse of 5 years.

The electorates of West Bengal, Kerala, and Jammu and Kashmir have given their mandate. Implementation of election manifestos depends on the people's mandate.

SOLOMENTSEV CONFERS WITH BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV

PM261429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Stay in Bulgaria"]

[Text] Sofia, 25 Mar -- On 24 March there was a meeting in Sofia between T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, and M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, who is head of a CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee delegation.

During the conversation, which took place in a warm, comradely atmosphere, there was an exchange of information on the problems being tackled at the current stage by the BCP and the CPSU and by the two fraternal peoples. The Bulgarian leader stressed that the Bulgarian party and state leadership fully supports CPSU policy in the domestic and international spheres. He dwelt on matters of improving economic management at all levels. The Soviet visitor talked about the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum aimed at carrying out restructuring in all areas of the life of Soviet society. Questions pertaining to the development of cooperation between the two fraternal countries were touched on, along with some problems of international life.

N. Papazov, chairman of the BCP Central Control and Auditing Commission, and L.I. Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria, were present at the meeting.

In the afternoon, the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee delegation visited the Central Institute of Computer Technology in the capital, whose collective is developing experimental models of electronic equipment and automation facilities for engineering work for the national economies of Bulgaria and other fraternal countries. The visitors familiarized themselves with production processes at the computer plant.

On the same day, T. Zhivkov gave a dinner in honor of the Soviet visitors which was attended by members of the Politburo, secretaries of the BCP Central Committee, and the chairman of the BCP Central Control and Auditing Commission.

Departs Bulgaria

LD271531 Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Sofia March 27 TASS -- A delegation of the Party Control Committee at the CPSU Central Committee has ended its visit to Bulgaria. The delegation, led by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Party Control Committee at the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Solomentsev, stayed here since March 23 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

The delegation left for home today. At Sofia Airport Mikhail Solomentsev and the other members of the delegation were seen off by member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Chudomir Aleksandrov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Dimitur Stanishev, Chairman of the Central Control and Auditing Commission of the Bulgarian Communist Party Nacho Papazov, and other officials.

JOINT EXERCISES WITH GDR END 30 MAR; AIMS MET

LD301618 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] [No dateline as received] -- A joint exercise of the group of Soviet troops in Germany and the National People's Army of the German Democratic Republic ended on March 30.

It was conducted to practice the control and interaction of different arms of the services.

According to the commanders of the exercise, it was instructive and demonstrated the troops' grown field training standards.

The aims of the exercise were met. The troops that were involved in the exercise are returning to their regular bases.

The exercise was attended by observers from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, the Federal Republic of Germany, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Britain, the United States, Finland, France, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Sweden and Yugoslavia. They had been invited in accordance with a document of the Stockholm Conference.

TALYZIN, CSSR'S POTAC DISCUSS DIVISION OF LABOR

LD231823 Prague CTK in English 1727 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 23 (CTK correspondent) -- Czechoslovak Deputy Premier, Chairman of the State Planning Commission Svatopluk Potac, who is currently on a short working visit to the Soviet Union, met here Monday with alternate member of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, First Deputy Premier and Chairman of the State Planning Committee Nikolay Talyzin to discuss a concept of the mutual division of labour for the next 15-20 years.

In connection with the restructuring of the CMEA integration mechanism, the two representatives dealt with a new attitude towards the coordination of national economic plans for the years 1991-1995. They informed each other on the measures adopted in both countries to implement the restructuring of economic mechanisms.

AUCCTU'S SHALAYEV MEETS CSSR COUNTERPART ZAVADIL

PM241135 Moscow TRUD in Russian 24 Mar 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Meeting at the AUCCTU"]

[Text] AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev had a meeting with M. Zavadil, chairman of the Czechoslovak Revolutionary Trade Union Movement Central Council, in the Palace of Labor 23 March.

During the talks, which were held in a friendly and businesslike atmosphere, there was an exchange of opinions on urgent problems of the activities of USSR and CSSR trade unions at the contemporary stage of socialist building, and questions of further developing and deepening cooperation between Soviet and Czechoslovak trade unions were discussed.

SOVIETS IMPLICATED IN ESPIONAGE CASE IN FRANCE

Rocket Spy Ring Alleged

AU300648 Paris AFP in English 0034 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Paris, March 30 (AFP) -- France is considering expelling a group of Soviet diplomats who are alleged to have organized a spy ring to obtain technical information on the European Ariane rocket-launcher, as well as other sensitive industrial data, reliable sources said here on Sunday.

The report, which confirmed an article to appear in Monday's issue of the daily LIBERATION, followed an Interior Ministry statement last Wednesday announcing the arrests of six people who are alleged to have tried to steal information about a high-technology rocket motor from a French factory.

The LIBERATION report, confirmed by the sources, said the head and six other members of the alleged spy ring were Soviet diplomats based in Paris. It named the head of the spy ring as Valeriy Konorev, a deputy military air attache at the Soviet Embassy in Paris. The sources said Foreign Ministry officials here were considering expelling the diplomats.

The newspaper said that in addition to spying on the European Jet Propulsion (SEP) Company's plant at Vernon in north-western France, the group had also attempted to gain secrets about a factory where parts for U.S. AWACS radar planes are built. That factory was named as Hispano-Suiza's plant in Harfleur, also in north-western France. The Hispano-Suiza factory builds a high-technology device called a thrust reverser for the engines used on the Airborne Warning and Control System planes. It recently gained a contract to build a revolutionary new version of the device for the engines to be fitted to the European Airbus-320 passenger plane.

Among other French facilities said to have been targetted by the alleged spy ring were port facilities at Rouen and Le Havre, a Matra engineering factory in the north-western Eure Department, a Renault automobile factory at Sandouville (also in north-western France) and several units of the state-owned Thomson electronics group.

In last week's statement, the Interior Ministry said the spy group had attempted to steal secrets concerning a revolutionary cryogenic (oxygen-hydrogen) rocket motor for the third stage of the Ariane space launcher.

Embassy Condemns Allegations

AU301022 Paris AFP in English 1018 GMT 30 Mar 87

[Text] Paris, March 30 (AFP) -- The Soviet Embassy here condemned Monday as "a continued anti-Soviet campaign" reports that seven Paris-based diplomats organised a rocket spy ring in France.

Such a campaign was "harmful to cooperation between France and the Soviet Union," an embassy spokesman said, recalling a protest note that the embassy had already sent 10 days ago to the French Foreign Ministry. Allegations published Monday in the left-wing newspaper LIBERATION that the spy ring was controlled by the deputy air attache at the embassy, Valeriy Konorev, with six other diplomats, were a continuation of this "campaign of lies and disinformation", the spokesman said.

Reliable sources said late Sunday that France was considering expelling the diplomats because of their role in obtaining technical information on the European Ariane rocket and other sensitive industrial data. Four Frenchmen, the Soviet-born wife of one of them and a Romanian woman were arrested on March 18 and charged with spying for an unnamed foreign power.

Former French Prime Minister Pierre Messmer, a senior member of the ruling Rally for the Republic (RPR) party said in a radio interview Monday that Mr. Konorev should be expelled immediately.

French Press 'Slander Campaign'

LD302315 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1855 GMT 30 Mar 87

["Anti-Soviet Campaign in France" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Paris, 30 March (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

There is no restraining those anti-Soviet people. The slander campaign concerning allegedly exposed attempts to penetrate the "secrets" of the "Ariane" rocket has burst out again after being on the verge of dying down. The Paris newspapers LE FIGARO and LIBERATION are in the forefront of this relapse. Quoting "unofficial information" culled from circles close to French counterintelligence, today they claim that some officials of the USSR Embassy in France have allegedly been involved in "espionage." The journalistic "canard" has been readily snapped up by other mouthpieces of the press, radio, and television. According to the Paris LE MONDE, the French Foreign Ministry today declined to give any comment on these claims.

LE FIGARO declares that this story "can naturally only darken relations between France and the Soviet Union." This is the only thing one can agree with. All the rest is the most brazen lies. This is contained in a statement issued today by the USSR Embassy. The embassy recalls that on 20 March this year it had already made a representation to the French Foreign Ministry in connection with the latest campaign of disinformation and slander against the USSR unleashed in the French mass media. It categorically rejected the false claims that damage the development of good relations between the two countries.

Now the embassy states that not only has this campaign not been halted but, on the contrary, it has in the past few days taken on a still cruder and more provocative character. The embassy reiterates its resolute protest and declares that responsibility for the consequences of a further whipping up of the provocative campaign lies entirely on the French side.

The fabrications fed to the press have been simply conjured up out of thin air. This is shown by the complete divergence of the "facts" cited by the slanderers from reality. At any rate, of what value is their claim that an official of the USSR Embassy in 1983 or 1984 allegedly "contacted" the effusive lady on whose information reportedly a group of French citizens in the vicinity of Rouen were arrested and accused of espionage? It has been proved with documents -- and the French side is well aware of this -- that this official (we are not giving his surname so as not to link it with this shabby story) was not in France at all either in 1983 or 1984. He came to work here only in the autumn of 1985. He has never even set eyes on a single one of the persons mentioned in connection with the spy novel now featured on the pages of the French bourgeois press, and never even suspected their existence until the local media mentioned them over the past few days.

Moreover, despite the press reports, he has never in his life -- this, too, is mightily well-known by the French side -- been to either Rouen or Le Havre or Vernon, where his intelligence activity was allegedly committed.

It can only be conjectured why and for whom all this unsavory propaganda had to be woven just now. Was it not to distract the attention of the public from the indisputable fact that the Ariane rocket carrier, which is supposed to be such a prize catch for the Soviet secret hunters, has been grounded ever since its last failure last May? And that it was just the other day that the announcement was made of another postponement -- at least until July -- of the next attempt to launch it? Space technology is an extraordinarily complex thing requiring huge effort, its road of development is beset with thorns and inevitably is accompanied by temporary failures. Far be it for Soviet people to gloat at the reversals of fortune experienced by the makers of Ariane. But amid the hysteria raised here how can one fail to recall the reports of the selfsame French press that with the help of its cryogenic engine Ariane will only in 1995 or later be able, according to estimates, to put into orbit a payload of 21 tons, while the Soviet Proton carrier, with a similar payload, has been in practical operation for more than 5 years now.

It is Ariane's cryogenic engine that is beset with failures, LES ECHOS, mouthpiece of the French business circles, states today. Recalling this, and the recent failure of another launch of the U.S. Atlas-Centaur military rocket, the paper stresses that the misadventures of Western space technology are taking place against the background of the faultlessly executed Soviet space program, in which "Soviet space cargo craft deliver mail into orbit with the regularity of mail trains." A sobering reminder.

TURKISH PAPER ON SOVIET NAVAL VISIT SIGNIFICANCE

LD291450 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 29 Mar 87

[Text] The Turkish mass media -- press, radio and television -- are giving wide coverage to the visit to Istanbul of a detachment of Soviet warships under the command of Admiral Khronopulo, commander of the Black Sea Fleet.

Our correspondent in Turkey, Aleksandr Ivanov reports:

[Ivanov] The influential Turkish newspaper HURRIYET, reporting the visit to Istanbul of a detachment of Soviet vessels made up of the large antisubmarine vessel, Ochakov, and the frigate Bezzavetnyy, stresses that this visit has evoked great interest from the residents in Istanbul. This is attested to by the great number of individuals wishing to visit the Soviet vessels. Istanbul residents are standing in line for hours since no more than 50 can visit the ships at the same time.

Pointing to the great significance of a visit to Istanbul of Soviet warships, HURRIYET cites Adm Khronopulo, commander of the Black Sea Fleet, on the fact that this visit is an important contribution to friendly Soviet-Turkish relations.

GORBACHEV, THATCHER KREMLIN DINNER SPEECHES

Gorbachev Speech

PM311419 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report under the general heading "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] Esteemed Madam Prime Minister,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Comrades,

Greeting you today, Mrs Thatcher, we are greeting the country with which the Soviet Union, Russia, has had a long-standing relationship and common interests. The two nations have gained much of what is useful from the four centuries of communication since Moscow and London exchanged their first embassies in the mid-16th century. There were other things, too, to the point of armed conflicts. But the two countries joined forces to fight Nazism. That glorious page will forever remain in history. It will never be obliterated from the memory of the Soviet people.

The times have changed. There are new problems, new concerns and hopes today. Soviet-British dialogue is an inseparable and important part of today's European and world politics. This is explained by the circumstance that the Soviet Union and Britain are two great powers and that each has made a major and irreplaceable contribution to world history. Both were among the founders of the United Nations and are permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. All this determines their international role and responsibility.

It is from these positions and in the spirit of realism and a desire to better understand each other's way of thinking that we approach the current talks.

Your visit to Moscow, Mrs. Thatcher, is taking place at a very interesting and very responsible time, at a time which is crucial in many respects, and this is making an imprint in our dialogue.

We have talked a good deal today about the process of reorganization in our country. I want to repeat in this context: Our foreign policy today stems directly from our domestic policy to a larger extent than ever before. We say honestly for all to hear: We need a lasting peace to concentrate on the development of our society and to tackle the tasks of improving the life of the Soviet people.

The West is scrutinizing this open position for signs of the Soviet Union's weakness. They claim that the Russians have hopelessly fallen behind, that their system is not working and that the goal of socialism has proved altogether flawed. That is why, supposedly, any concession can now be wrenched from them if proper pressure is applied. It is a bad delusion.

The Soviet Union today is a result of immense, great socioeconomic changes and transformations, which her peoples have carried out in the seven decades since the revolution. True, there have been difficulties, sometimes dramatic, and quite a few external obstacles. [paragraph continues]

However, one thing is clear: The efforts of the people have turned the country into a world power, whose role in international affairs is well-known and commonly recognized. The economic potential of the Soviet state, its political prestige, and the ability of our society for more energetic advance are being turned by us to the good of world peace and progress.

The socialist system has demonstrated repeatedly and in many ways its advantage over capitalism. This is not boasting but a hard fact. Far from all its potentialities have been identified and put to use. The full development of the potential of socialism, the comprehensive perfection of the Soviet system, its new quality, and a new level of the material well-being and the cultural and intellectual standards of the people are what reorganization will give us.

At the same time, it is socialism's invitation to peaceful competition with any other social system, and not merely an invitation, but the manifestation of readiness to participate as equals in the development of an appropriate mechanism of this competition, cooperation and, if you wish, rivalry -- but peaceful rivalry. This mechanism should promote and strengthen trust and create an atmosphere for the peaceful competition of states.

It is one of the fundamental aspects of new political thinking. Today's world needs it. Otherwise the age which gave rise to nuclear weapons will be short and end in a tragedy for mankind.

It is alarming that the West continues to claim today that nuclear deterrence is the only way of averting war.

We do not understand how nuclear weapons can be lauded when there are four tons of explosives for everyone, including children, in the world and when the explosion of even a small part of the existing nuclear arms arsenals will jeopardize life on earth. We cannot agree to this from the point of view of either politics or morality.

I would like to say, too, that the Soviet Union has pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and will never turn them against those countries that have no such weapons in their territories. This is our immutable principle.

I have already had a chance to point out the evil of the ideology and policy of nuclear deterrence. I want to explain our position anew. First, this tool is not fail-proof and as time goes on the risk of the accidental outbreak of a nuclear conflict keeps growing. It is the fuse of the charge which is capable of destroying civilization. Second, deterrence is a policy of blackmail and threats, and therefore a constant source of the arms race and the escalation of tension.

Third, the logic of deterrence, i.e. the buildup and upgrading of weaponry, means the subordination of politics to the interests of militarism with most grievous consequences for the well-being of the people and for democracy itself.

Old thinking, involving armed force as a means of achieving political goals and the presentation of other nations in the "image of an enemy," led to two world slaughters. It bred the cold war and today's extremely dangerous situation, and has brought the world to a point beyond which unpredictable consequences begin.

Our unilateral moratorium, a program for a nuclear-free world, announced on January 15, 1986, the Reykjavik initiative, the Moscow forum "For a Nuclear-free World, for the Survival of Humanity" and now the proposal to detach the question of medium-range missiles in Europe constitute manifestations of new thinking. The basic outlines of an accord on medium-range missiles in Europe were agreed upon in Reykjavik. It would seem that there are no serious obstacles to rapid progress. An accord would have major military and political importance, and, moreover, would change the situation psychologically: we have been arming ourselves until now, but then would for the first time start dismantling nuclear weapons.

But what is happening in response to our initiative?

We see the problem of medium-range missiles being weighed down with a package of conditions and demands directed to the Soviet Union. We see the NATO countries retreating from the positions of their own "zero option." Things have gone so far that, instead of reductions in the nuclear arms arsenals, Europe is being offered a buildup of those arsenals, "upgrading" with U.S. operational and tactical missiles.

We also hear statements that the West will trust the Soviet arms reductions proposals if the USSR modifies its political system, taking Western society as a model. It just cannot be meant seriously. To hope that we surrender our ideals at any time means to flee from reality.

The next few weeks will show if NATO really wants to remove a whole class of nuclear weapons from Europe in accordance with the wish of the peoples, or if it again is trying to find a decent way of disguising its desire to retain Pershings and cruise missiles in Europe and even increase their number, or replace them with something newer.

To the roar of nuclear explosions in Nevada, we had to break off our eighteen-month unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing. But this does not mean that we have stopped our ideas of achieving a solution to this key problem of nuclear disarmament.

The Soviet Union is prepared to return to the moratorium any day and any month the United States declares an end to its testing. Let me take advantage of this opportunity to remind Britain that it is a participant in tripartite talks on this issue.

We hope that the in depth dialogue we are conducting with Western countries and our positions and intentions, which we have been talking about frankly and backing up with practical action, as well as this visit of yours, esteemed Madam Prime Minister, and our forthright talks will finally form a subject for serious deliberation and invite reciprocal moves. At this critical moment for Europe, it is its nuclear powers -- Britain and France -- that we are primarily addressing.

The world today is one in which a struggle is underway between reason and madness, morality and savagery, life and death. We have determined our place in this struggle definitely and irreversibly. We are on the side of reason, morality and life. This is why we are for disarmament, most notably nuclear disarmament, and for creating a system for general security. This is the only possible way that mankind can regain immortality.

Strength must give way to universally shared values and equal relations presupposing respect for the interests of every nation and for its right to an independent choice, the right to be unlike others.

It ought to be said that in the West there are still quite a few people with a penchant for talking about the freedom of choice. But they really mean the choice of the capitalist system. However, when this or that people -- in Nicaragua, Africa, the Middle East, or Asia -- actually reveals a desire to look for a different road on its own, one which will suit it better, it finds its way immediately barred with dollars, missiles, or mercenaries. They start with hypocrisy and end with bloodshed.

As a result, the "volcanoes" of regional conflicts are fuming.

The "lava of strife" they are spewing forth has been burning the whole organism of the world community and filling it with smoke. We propose looking at this problem, too, in the light of new thinking and demonstrating an ability to reckon with the realities of specific situations and see the real causes of any conflict, rather than zealously [dnem s ognem] search for a "hand of Moscow" everywhere.

Approaches to a settlement can be different. An international conference on the Middle East, activities by the Contadora Group, the U.N. secretary general's efforts for an end to the Iran-Iraq war, effective economic and political measures against the apartheid regime in southern Africa, cooperation between the countries of ASEAN and Indochina as a factor for a settlement regarding Cambodia -- these and possibly other methods and forms could help quench the fires.

As far as Afghanistan is concerned, we are for resolving the problem by political means through an end to outside interference. The Afghan Government's program for national reconciliation has evoked broad response both in that country and elsewhere in the world. It is the only right way to pursue. Soviet troops have come to Afghanistan at the request of its government, and they will be returned home as part of a political settlement. The process of achieving national reconciliation and a settlement concerning Afghanistan is already underway.

It is making progress. The main thing is not to hamper it and to put an end to any interference in the affairs of that sovereign country, which wants to be and will be neutral and nonaligned. We are, however, only witnessing a step-up in efforts to scuttle the normalization process on the part of certain Western forces.

The goal of "humanizing" international relations is served by continuing the all-European process started in Helsinki. The CSCE process is a kind of university of political dialogue. It has taught us more than one lesson in the difficult science of mutual understanding; it has been teaching us to see the opposite side not as an enemy, but as a partner. The document adopted in Stockholm is proof that these lessons have been learned well.

But further progress has to be made. We are waiting patiently for a reply to the Warsaw Pact countries' initiative on conventional arms and armed forces and are prepared for a decisive scaling down of the military confrontation of the two blocs in a zone stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Arms must be reduced to a level of reasonable sufficiency, that is to a level only needed to cope with the tasks of defense. In European buildings every apartment is entitled to protect itself against burglars, but only in such a way as not to demolish the next-door apartment.

We are prepared to come to terms on a dependable and irreversible destruction of all chemical weapons.

So we count on the West, especially West European countries, to be aware of its responsibility and to take reciprocal steps in what concerns non-nuclear arms.

The all-European process could be effectively assisted by a representative humanitarian forum we have suggested holding in Moscow. But it's interesting that as soon as we made the invitation to talk about human rights in a serious and businesslike manner and compare, in an atmosphere of mutual candor, how people really live here and in capitalist countries, they apparently have grown nervous and again are trying to reduce the whole subject to two or three individual cases, while evading a discussion of all the rest.

We also are prepared to discuss the particular case in a humane spirit, but are strongly intent on talking about the whole range of related problems openly and loudly so that we shall be heard in the West by the millions of the unemployed, the homeless, and the destitute, by those beaten by police and victimized in court, and by those whose civil rights and human dignity are subjected to glaring discrimination simply because of the color of their skin, and so that we shall be heard also by the trade unions deprived of the right to protect their members and thus of their inherent mission, and by blue-collar and other workers denied the possibility to take part in running the factories they have been bound to for their entire lives.

If we are to talk about human rights, let's talk about all rights and especially about those concerning millions of people.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Comrades,

Face-to-face meetings are the best way of finding common ground and bringing positions closer together on specific matters. What is essential here is an ability not only to talk, but also to listen; and not only to listen, but also to understand each other and to look jointly for solutions to the most formidable problems of the modern world. It is in this vein that we would like to pursue our political dialogue with Britain.

The Soviet Union cherishes its economic, scientific and technological contacts with Britain. Our departments have prepared well for talks on these matters. You will have an opportunity to see this for yourselves tomorrow. But things will not start to hum if the British side remains unwilling to remove the obstacles which keep everything that is the most interesting for us out of the exchanges, prevent Soviet goods' access to your market, or make offers by your firms noncompetitive. In short, we need reciprocity and understanding for each other's interests in this field.

We in the Soviet Union respect the British people's allegiance to traditions. We know the role your country has played in developing world trade and industry and appreciate the skills of its workers and the great contribution by its scientists, artists, and writers to the cultural treasure house of civilization. [paragraph continues]

We understand a feeling for one's historical "roots" and share it. A nation disregarding its history puts a question mark over its future. But it is likewise true that he who does not think of his future also devalues the best in his past.

So let us address the problems of the times so that the people of the 21st century could appreciate the political thinking demonstrated by the leadership of the USSR and Britain in this complex, watershed period.

I wish happiness and well-being to you, Mrs. Thatcher, and to all British guests, and peace and success in tackling their problems to the people of Britain.

Gorbachev Speech 'Angry'

LD310825 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0820 GMT 31 Mar 87

[By Chris Moncrieff, PRESS ASSOCIATION chief political correspondent in Moscow]

[Text] The prime minister was today studying in depth a new English translation of Mr Gorbachev's fiery speech delivered at the sumptuous banquet in her honour at the Kremlin last night. Mr Gorbachev launched, in Russian, into a scathing attack on the West for its response to his proposal for the removal of all medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe. And he also, by implication, attacked Mrs Thatcher's unremitting criticism of Soviet human rights policy, by referring to the "millions" out of work, homeless people, "victimised trade unions" and those "deprived" because of the colour of their skin in the West. As he spoke, Mrs Thatcher had in front of her at the banquet an "unofficial translation". But the British Embassy also recorded the speech and was having it translated separately.

Some Soviet sources claim that in one passage -- not included in Mrs Thatcher's translation -- he said: "I do wish people would see things in a reasonable light rather than walking around in broad daylight with a candle searching for the hand of Moscow." If this was said, it would have been a deliberately mocking of Mrs Thatcher, over her lighting of a candle during a service at St Sergius Russian Orthodox Church in Zagorsk on Sunday. Afterwards, Mrs Thatcher described her action as a symbolic gesture for freedom.

Despite his angry speech and her own no less robust one, both the Soviet leader and Mrs Thatcher remain the best of friends. Tonight, Mr Gorbachev and his wife Raisa, in a surprise gesture of goodwill, have invited the prime minister, to join them at a private dinner party. It will be the third time during the visit that she has been a guest in this way.

Thatcher Dinner Speech

PM311413 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report under the general heading "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] Mr General Secretary, Mr Chairman, ministers and fellow guests. I am proud to address the distinguished members of the Soviet leadership in this historic place. Ya ochen rada opyat nakhoditsa v moskve. (I am very glad to be here in Moscow again).

The Kremlin has been witness to many of the most momentous events in the history of your great nation. One of my most distinguished predecessors, Sir Winston Churchill, came here in 1942. Speaking then, he said that he would not have come to Moscow unless he had felt sure that he would be able to discuss realities. I echo his words.

I thank you for inviting me to make this visit -- the first official visit by a British prime minister to the Soviet Union for 12 years -- and for the hospitality and warm reception. It follows a long tradition of contacts between our two countries over the centuries.

Many people, very many people, in Britain remember vividly the highly successful visit which you paid us, Mr General Secretary, just over 2 years ago. We hope that you will visit us again soon. We would also welcome a visit from the chairman of the Council of Ministers.

One of the things which all those who met you in Britain remember most clearly is your direct approach to issues. We like that. Indeed, I have a modest reputation in that way myself.

The relations between our two countries can only be sound if each side knows precisely what the other is thinking, and the reasons why.

Of course we can each learn something from the other. You will recall that Aleksandr Pushkin's Yevgeniy Onegin learned all his knowledge of political economy from us British. One of the first things we are told about him is: "He spurned Greek poetry and myth, but how he knew his Adam Smith. As an economist he profoundly understood and could expound the means by which a state gets wealthy and how its livelihood is controlled. Smith said it has no need of gold -- "producing goods will keep it healthy."

I know that memories of the World War II are vivid in your country. So they are in ours. We fought the Battle of Britain in 1940 alone against the whole might of the German Air Force. Our great cities were bombed night after night. Many of our sailors took part in the northern convoys, with heavy loss of life, to ensure that supplies got through to help the Soviet war effort. Our people then fought side by side to turn back the tide of monstrous tyranny and oppression.

The Soviet Union itself suffered unimaginable and tragic loss of life and ruinous damage in battles fought on your own soil. As a young woman, I followed with anguish but also with admiration the suffering and the heroism of the Russian people.

That bravery and fortitude is as evident today. A few weeks ago I was visited by one of your firemen who had fought the blaze at the Chernobyl nuclear power station with such outstanding courage.

A true hero.

Mr General Secretary, I do not want this evening simply to set out the British view on a number of issues for the record. Rather, I want to use the opportunity to examine two very important questions:

-- How do we manage change in our societies?

-- How do we assure ourselves of security?

The two questions are very closely linked, because it is increasingly difficult for any country, above all a great power like the Soviet Union, to draw a clear dividing line between what happens inside its borders and the wider world within which it has to seek security and prosperity.

My visit to the Soviet Union comes at what is evidently a very exciting and stimulating moment in your national affairs. Indeed you yourself have called it a revolution.

We read your speeches with great attention. We hear your references to openness, democratization, independent judiciary, and incentives. We have read your references to free labor and free thought in a free country.

In our society, those words convey hope and faith in the spirit of the individual, a belief in freedom and justice. It was because we valued these things not only for ourselves but for other peoples that when on 3 September 1939 Hitler refused to withdraw from Poland, we went to war to stop tyranny from spreading across Europe.

Against that background we welcome the opportunities which your proposed changes will bring, both for the prosperity and well-being of your own people, and for the prospects for increasingly open contacts with other countries and peoples.

The fact is, Mr General Secretary, we are increasingly one world and need to think globally. National boundaries can no longer keep our countries and peoples in separate compartments. One has only to think of matters so diverse as acid rain, pollution, disease, broadcasting, sports, books and ideas, travel -- all these are bringing about changes which do not always recognize the boundaries drawn on maps.

The result is that one country's policies, practices, and standards increasingly affect the lives of others, and they in turn are affected by the hopes and ambitions of other peoples. More and more we face problems that we can only solve together.

This need to consider the impact beyond our borders of what happens within them applies to what is for me the most crucial question of all: That of how to establish greater confidence and trust between the countries of the East and West. This is vital if we are to reach agreements allowing us to reduce the burden of armaments and to devote more resources to increasing the well-being of the people. We all want to see such agreements. But whether they can be reached depends not only on the skill of the negotiators: It depends much more fundamentally on how governments and peoples in East and West view each other, what they believe about each other's intentions, how they judge each other's readiness to honor their commitments, and how they judge each other's long-term objectives in the wider world.

For example, we in the West have the system which we think is best for us. We fight the battle of ideas by letting the results of our own democratic system speak for themselves. But we seek no one else's territory or possessions, nor do we seek to impose our political system on others, for we believe in the right of other peoples to determine their own destiny.

It is only natural, therefore, that statements that you will struggle for the total triumph of socialism all over the world raise fears among our people because they are seen as a threat.

Or take the question of human rights: The extent to which you, the Soviet Government, meet the commitments you have freely undertaken in the Helsinki Final Act will determine how far other countries and other peoples have confidence in the undertakings which you give on, for instance, arms control. The greater your readiness to release prisoners of conscience and to allow those who wish to do so to freely leave their country -- and we welcome the steps which you already have taken -- the greater the readiness you will find in the West to believe that peaceful and friendly relations with the Soviet Union can be maintained and extended.

Similarly, Mr General Secretary, the Soviet Union's readiness to withdraw their troops [voyska] from Afghanistan with the shortest possible delay, so that the Afghan people can exercise their right to self-determination, will have a crucial part not only in the future of Afghanistan, but in deciding how others see you and whether they trust or fear you and make their plans accordingly. You would have our full support in implementing a solution that will allow an independent and genuinely nonaligned Afghanistan to live in friendly relations with all its neighbors.

Mr General Secretary, I believe that we have a unique opportunity to increase understanding and confidence between East and West. But just as we would expect you to judge us not only by what we say but what we do, so we will reach our judgments not on intentions or on promises, but on deeds and on results.

Mr General Secretary, every nation has the right to be secure and feel secure.

We in the West find our security in the Atlantic alliance which binds Europe and the United States. It is a defensive alliance. We threaten no one. NATO gave a solemn assurance in 1982:

"None of our weapons will ever be used except in response to an attack."

The mistake in sometimes made of believing that Europe can be divided from the United States. But on the fundamentals and in our determination to defend our democratic values, we are inseparable.

It is because of the unity of the NATO alliance, and because of our hopes for greater confidence between East and West that we are ready to look for ways to achieve security at lower levels of armaments.

I do not believe that it makes sense to try to achieve this in one leap. It makes better sense to approach it step by step.

But we must always keep in mind the impact of each agreement on our overall security.

The priorities are now surely clear to us all:

- An INF agreement with restraints on shorter-range systems;
- A 50 percent cut in United States and Soviet strategic offensive systems;
- A world-wide ban on chemical weapons.

Of course, reductions in these areas will enhance the importance of eliminating disparities in conventional forces.

You recognized the validity of this step by step approach, Mr General Secretary, in your statement of 28 February, in which you proposed the conclusion of a separate INF agreement.

I very much hope that such an agreement can be reached.

But at each stage of the negotiations we must ensure that each side enjoys undiminished security. In judging that, we have to look at the whole range of armaments, not just one category.

We can agree to medium-range missiles [rakety sredney dalnosti] in Europe being eliminated. But we must also have constraints on shorter-range missiles to ensure there is no circumvention of this agreement. The next stage must be further negotiations to reduce the imbalance of shorter-range systems, where the Warsaw Pact has a massive superiority of 9:1. There also must be real progress in negotiations to deal with the Warsaw Pact's superiority in conventional forces.

You yourself recently proposed, Mr General Secretary, that the way to deal with this is not for the one with less to increase his forces, but for the one with more to reduce them. I agree entirely.

Deep cuts in strategic weapons also should be within reach.

There is no reason why such reductions should be made to depend on limitations on the United States' Strategic Defense Initiative research program. You cannot stop such research any more than you can stop the onward march of science in general. Man will always strive to push forward the frontiers of knowledge. We know that similar work is being undertaken in the Soviet Union. I do not think that there will ever be a complete defense against strategic nuclear weapons. But we cannot foreclose on the chance that defenses could make a valuable contribution to a more stable relationship. As President Reagan and I agreed at Camp David in December 1984, the aim of any strategic defence system should be to enhance, not to undermine deterrence, to maintain balance, not to achieve superiority.

That is why I think we should be trying not to prevent research to the point of establishing feasibility, but to manage the results of that research so that neither side feels threatened by it. It is already agreed that any deployment would have to be a matter for genuine negotiation.

A further step to create confidence might be to have a timetable spelling out the planned research program of both parties, supported by a commitment not to withdraw from the ABM Treaty for a fixed period. This should give both sides enough certainty about the other's intentions to enable reductions in strategic weapons to proceed.

We also need to reach, as a matter of urgency, agreement to ban chemical weapons. Although Britain gave up hers in the late 1950's, the Soviet Union has a massive superiority over the West in these weapons.

Agreements in these three areas, with provision for strict verification in each case, would be a very remarkable achievement. We should concentrate on that. I do not believe that it makes practical sense to try to look beyond them. If we are too ambitious, we risk sacrificing what can be achieved now.

The fact is that nuclear weapons exist and the knowledge of how to make them cannot be erased.

Conventional weapons have never been enough to deter war, two world wars showed us that. They also showed us how terrible a war fought even with conventional weapons can be. Yet nuclear weapons have deterred not only nuclear war, but conventional war in Europe as well.

A world without nuclear weapons may be a dream. But you cannot base a sure defense on dreams. Without far greater trust and confidence between East and West than exists at present, a world without nuclear weapons would be less stable and more dangerous for all of us.

I recall to you some words of Sir Winston Churchill: "Be careful above all not to let go of the atomic weapon until you are sure, and more than sure, that other means of preserving peace are in your hands."

That is why the government I lead will not abandon the security provided for our country and for the NATO alliance by nuclear weapons.

Our own nuclear forces will remain at the minimal level needed to guarantee our own security and to contribute to the security of our allies. They may be very small compared to the forces of the Soviet Union. But for us they are, and will remain, crucial.

Mr General Secretary, I make these points to you not in any combative spirit, but in the hope that by clear thinking and frank speaking and in a spirit of realism and mutual understanding we may build a better and more constructive relationship between our countries and thus make our contribution toward a more secure and peaceful world.

Mr General Secretary, I started my speech on a note of hope. And it is with hope that I wish to end it.

I have high hopes for the future development of our bilateral relations.

Tomorrow we shall witness the signing of some agreements between our two governments. One of them sets out ambitious new ideas to improve communication between our two peoples. We in Britain have always had great admiration for the contribution which your country has made to European culture over the centuries. That contribution was based upon unrestricted contacts and exchanges across the whole of Europe. I attach very great importance to reestablishing them. We would like to see many more of your young people come to Britain and see for themselves; and we would like to send more of ours to the Soviet Union. The free movement of people and ideas is an essential part of creating trust.

I have high hopes, Mr General Secretary, for the success of the negotiations in Geneva and in Vienna for reductions in arms.

I have high hopes that the important developments taking place in your country will contribute to greater confidence between East and West.

There is a famous passage in Shakespeare which speaks of a tide in the affairs of men, which when taken at the flood tide leads to fortune. Perhaps, Mr General Secretary, you have already caught that tide. You have certainly embarked upon a great endeavor. We most earnestly wish you and your people well. Your success would bring in other tides on other shores far beyond your own.

III. 1 Apr 87

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WESTERN EUROPE

So, Mr General Secretary, I raise my glass to you and to the success of the course on which you are embarked. You carry our sincere good wishes.

I raise my glass to the well-being of the peoples of your great country.

I raise my glass to all my Soviet hosts in gratitude for their magnificent hospitality.

And I raise my glass to a relationship of goodwill and mutual respect between our two countries.

Za vashe zdorovye. Zhelayu vam uspyekha. (To your health: I wish you success).

BRIEFS

SPORTS COOPERATION WITH FRANCE -- Moscow, 21 Mar (TASS) -- Marat Gramov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports; and Raymond Roussa, member of the presidential council of the "France-USSR" society, have signed a protocol in Moscow on cooperation between their organizations for 1987. The protocol envisions measures to receive French athletes in the USSR on a commercial basis; the exchange of journalists and specialists on the sociology of sports; the organization of the "Sports in France" and "Sports in the USSR" exhibitions; and the screening of documentary films about Soviet sports. Both sides will make efforts toward organizing meetings with the public during the respective stay in their country of Soviet and French athletes. An accord has been reached on the main areas in which cooperation is to develop in 1988, and also on studying the possibility of implementing such new forms of cooperation as specialized "Russian Language and Sports" tourist trips. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0804 GMT 21 Mar 87 LD]

CONTINUED REPORTAGE ON ORLOV DELEGATION'S VISIT

IZVESTIYA: Jordan Meetings

PM311456 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Support for the Arabs' Just Cause"]

[Text] Amman, 30 Mar -- Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.P. Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is in Jordan on an official visit. In the course of the friendly talk there was a detailed exchange of opinions on the situation in the Arab world and a number of international problems, and also on the prospects for the development of relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

Z. al-Rifa'i expressed satisfaction at the state of relations between the two countries and expressed hopes for their further progress. There are no disagreements between us, he stressed. On political questions our countries' positions are close or coincide in their very essence. We are grateful to the Soviet Union for coming out in support of the just cause of the Arab peoples, including the people of Jordan. The head of the Soviet delegation noted that the attainment of a comprehensive, just settlement in the region is the main aim of the Soviet Union's policy in the Near East.

On the same day the Soviet delegation met with Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Jordanian National Assembly. The Soviet Union, A. al-Fayiz stated, is the only great power constantly to take the side of the Arabs' just cause. Jordan and all the Arab countries value this position of the USSR's highly. Jordan and the Soviet Union advocate speediest convocation of an international conference on the Near East with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all parties directly involved in the conflict. Our country, he stressed, supports the USSR's position on questions of nuclear disarmament and the strengthening of world peace. The Soviet Union put forward very good proposals, and we hope the other side will accept these proposals. Israel, A. al-Fayiz added, could not implement a policy of expansion and occupation of Arab territories were it not for the all-around U.S. support of Tel Aviv.

The Soviet delegation also met with Senator Bahjat al-Talhuni, president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society and a prominent Jordanian state and public figure.

Jordan and the Soviet Union are linked by firm bonds of friendship based on the principles of mutual respect and mutual understanding, B. al-Talhuni stated. He assessed highly the position of the Soviet Union, which comes out firmly in support of the Arab peoples' struggle and seeks the establishment of a lasting, just peace in the Near East.

The head of the Soviet delegation noted that in the present complex situation in the region, key significance is attached to the Arabs' cohesion and unity of action. The Arab countries must together define measures to ensure the Palestinians' rights to life and security and to achieve peace in the region. The USSR, he stressed, is prepared to work in this direction, cooperating with all who would like to further this process.

The Soviet parliamentary delegation visited Al-baq'ah Palestinian refugee camp near Amman. [paragraph continues]

There are 13 such camps on Jordanian territory, where more than 150,000 Palestinian refugees live, having been deprived of their motherland and homes as a result of Israeli aggression. What is the use of the expatiations of the United States and the Zionists about "human rights," M. Dudin, minister for the occupied territories, said at a meeting with the Soviet delegation, if Washington promotes the flouting of the rights of a whole people.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation had a meeting with R. al-Bataynah, chairman of the foreign affairs commission of the Jordanian National Assembly Chamber of Deputies, and other deputies of the Jordanian parliament. In the course of the friendly talk R. al-Bataynah noted that Israel's continuing occupation of Arab lands and the threat of aggression from Tel Aviv create obstacles in the Arab countries' socioeconomic development. He stressed that Jordan assesses highly the Soviet Union's position on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the USSR's efforts to convene an international peace conference. In the course of the talk questions of the situation in the occupied territories and problems associated with nuclear disarmament were also touched on. R. al-Bataynah supported the Soviet initiatives on the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The consistent and principled policy of the Soviet Union, which invariably comes out in support of the Arabs' just cause, meets with a positive response among our people, Jordanian member of parliament (Yu. al-Azem) stated. At the same time, he noted, the United States, pursuing a policy of support for Israeli expansion, has entirely lost the Arabs' confidence.

The Soviet Union's firm position in the Near East strengthens our steadfastness too, D. Sulayman, chairman of the Jordanian National Assembly commission for occupied territories, stated.

Meets Jordanian Senator

PM310900 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Parliamentary Ties"]

[Text] Amman, 29 Mar -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.P. Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is here on an official visit, met with Senator Bahjat al-Talhuni, president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society and a prominent Jordanian state and public figure.

Jordan and the Soviet Union are linked by firm bonds of friendship based on the principles of mutual respect and mutual understanding, B. al-Talhuni stated, addressing the Soviet parliamentarians. He assessed highly the position of the Soviet Union, which firmly supports the Arab peoples' struggle and seeks the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Near East.

In a reply speech V.P. Orlov stated that in the present complex situation in the region, key significance is attached to cohesion and unity of actions by the Arabs. The Arab countries, he noted, must together determine measures to ensure the Palestinians' right to life and security and to achieve peace in the region. The USSR, the leader of the Soviet parliamentary delegation stressed, is prepared to work in this direction, cooperating with everyone who would like to promote this process.

DRA, Others Discussed

LD312139 Moscow TASS in English 1124 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Amman March 31 TASS -- A delegation from the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of the USSR led by Vladimir Orlov, a vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, stayed in Jordan on March 24 through 31 on a friendly visit at the invitation of the National Assembly of the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan.

The delegation was received by King Husayn, crown prince Hasan, Prime Minister Sayd al-Rifa'i. Notes were compared on a wide range of issues concerning both international affairs and bilateral relations.

The discussions demonstrated the identity or proximity of positions held by the Soviet Union and Jordan on the key problems of the times.

The sides stressed the need for observing such fundamental principles as the renunciation of the threat or use of force, mutual respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and the inviolability of borders, non-interference in internal affairs, and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means.

It was pointed out that the road to peace in the Middle East lies through the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to exercise self-determination and set up a state of their own in keeping with existing U.N. resolutions, and the ensuring of the right of all countries of the region to independent existence.

The Soviet and Jordanian representatives said that a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East can only be achieved by means of the machinery of an international peace conference under U.N. aegis with the full-fledged participation of all sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization -- the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people.

The sides called for an end to the Iran-Iraq armed conflict and for its negotiated settlement.

The delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR explained in detail the steps taken by the USSR and Democratic Afghanistan lately to settle the situation regarding the latter country and exposed U.S. attempts to prevent a settlement by stepping up support for counter-revolutionary forces.

The Soviet and Jordanian parliamentarians expressed themselves in favor of an early national reconciliation and an end to bloodletting on Afghan soil.

PRAVDA'S DEMCHENKO PONDER'S U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

PM311035 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 March 1987 First Edition carries on page 5, under the rubric "From Different Positions" a reprint of an 800-word article by Steven Dryden headlined "Washington's Difficulties in Regaining its Role in the Near East" and originally published in the 23 March edition of BUSINESS WEEK.

This is accompanied by a 600-word article by PRAVDA international observer Pavel Demchenko headlined "Principles Versus Subterfuges." Dryden surveys the problems created in U.S. relations with the Arab states by the administration's arms shipments to Iran and close links with Israel. Demchenko's commentary is as follows:

"It is difficult to disagree with the final sentence of the article published in BUSINESS WEEK: 'Not to go forward in the Near East is to go backward.' Only it is not put strongly enough. In recent years Washington has not only not gone forward itself, it has also prevented others from doing so. And how! It has done its utmost to undo any step, however small, toward peace in this part of the world which has suffered too much.

"The noisy exposure of the U.S. arms deliveries to Iran is just one example. In the Arab world, as I was able to see for myself during a recent visit there, these deliveries have been assessed unequivocally as yet another indication that the United States is seeking to drag out the Iran-Iraq conflict. Neither has it done anything to stop the fratricidal war in Lebanon, except perhaps adding fuel to the flames of discord.

"The question is: Why? The answer is simple. The protracted conflict in the Persian Gulf and the chaos in tiny Lebanon fit in with the U.S. strategic plans in the Near East and accord with the interests of the main U.S. ally -- Israel.

"This fully applies also the resistance to the convocation of a representative international conference on a peaceful settlement in the region. Plenty of pretexts are cited: The Arabs are allegedly not ready for such a conference, the Soviet Union does not have diplomatic relations with Israel, bilateral talks are preferable to any conference, and so forth. However, the main reason lies elsewhere: There is no wish to take even the first step toward normalizing the situation and to opt for international cooperation at the expense of the strong-arm methods of pressure and threats and the policy of aircraft carriers and missiles.

"It was only to be expected that Washington would have to pay for this course one day. Hence the forced acknowledgement of a fact which S. Dryden clearly finds unpleasant: 'The prestige and weight of the United States in the Arab world have been declining since President Reagan came to power.'

"As if suddenly coming to its senses, the U.S. State Department has now declared that the country might take part in an international conference, provided that Israel lifts its objections. In view of the strategic cooperation between Washington and Tel Aviv, this 'proviso' looks flimsy, to say the least, but the crux of the matter lies elsewhere. If you look more closely at the statement of U.S. officials you realize that they do not envisage the conference as a forum of equal participants but rather as a cover, as a screen to be used to bestow international recognition on bilateral agreements or, more accurately, deals concluded under the impact of the same old strong-arm pressure.

"In short, it is merely a question of a maneuver, of an attempt to appear in a better light in the eyes of 'moderate Arabs.' Soviet diplomacy occupies a completely different position. It upholds the principle of a genuinely fair Near East settlement based on the return of the occupied lands to their real owners and on the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to political self-determination. An international conference is called upon to bring together all interested parties, and primarily those involved in the conflict, and to elaborate documents guaranteeing the practical implementation of this principle.

"The decades of bloodshed in the Near East demonstrate convincingly, it would seem, what behind-the-scenes machinations and separate deals are worth. Only cardinal and comprehensive steps rather than more subterfuges can cut the Gordian knot of Near East tension."

IZVESTIYA CARRIES RYZHKOV'S MOZAMBIQUE INTERVIEW

PM301038 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 3

["Answers Given by N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Questions From L. de Vas Conselos, General Director of Radio Mozambique" -- date, place of interview not given]

[Text] [L. de Vas Conselos] I. How do you assess the overall results of cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Mozambique?

[N.I. Ryzhkov] We began to lay the foundations of our friendship and cooperation back in the years of Mozambique people's heroic struggle, under the leadership of the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo], against the colonial yoke and for their motherland's freedom and independence. The Soviet people were on the side of the Mozambique patriots during that unforgettable period, and we are with you now too.

With the proclamation of the People's Republic of Mozambique in 1975, the Soviet Union was one of the first to establish diplomatic relations. Soviet-Mozambique cooperation reached new heights. It accords with the vital interests of our countries' peoples and serves the cause of peace. These are the principles reflected in the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation, whose 10th anniversary we will be marking in a fitting manner on 31 March. As the logical consequence of our states' political rapprochement, the treaty has become the reliable foundation on which the entire range of Soviet-Mozambique relations is built. It has withstood the test of time.

The very important result of the past 10 years is that our countries' peoples -- although separated by many thousands of kilometers -- have come to know each other better, and we can see more clearly the problems which must be tackled in the course of cooperation. This has been prompted by the regular meetings between Soviet and Mozambique party and state leaders and parliamentarians and numerous business contacts at other levels. The links between the CPSU and the Frelimo Party should be particularly singled out.

The strengthening of multifaceted ties with the liberated countries and support for their struggle against imperialism's neocolonialist policy and for liberation, independence, and national dignity -- that is a fundamental question for our Communist Party and for the Soviet state. These countries' growing influence in world affairs is certainly one of the most distinctive features of the present era. The better things go in these countries, the more the cause of peace and social progress has to gain.

This approach forms the basis of our relations with Mozambique as well. We actively support its efforts aimed at putting an end to the backwardness inherited from the colonialists and rebuffing those who encroach on the country's independence and territorial integrity.

Soviet-Mozambique trade and economic cooperation is built on a long-term foundation. The Soviet Union, as you know, gives Mozambique assistance in the construction of a number of agricultural and industrial enterprises, in geological prospecting work, in the exploitation of fish resources, and in the training of the national cadres it so badly needs. [paragraph continues]

Our cooperation comprises more than 40 projects. The Soviet Union has granted Mozambique large state credits for their implementation. Mozambique is also given nonrepayable aid in the form of deliveries of consumer goods and food, assistance in the struggle against malaria, and so forth.

Examples of this cooperation are the ship repair complex, six vocational and technical schools, and several thousand skilled specialists for work in various spheres of the national economy.

Of course, our cooperation also has certain problems. We are not avoiding tackling them, believing that there are still many unutilized opportunities for improving our ties. We intent to discuss these questions with our Mozambique friends in the near future. In this context I would like to note that a high-ranking Soviet delegation is going to Mozambique in the next few days to take part in celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of the treaty. We are confident that by joint efforts our cooperation will be given greater dynamism and effectiveness.

[L. de Vas Conselos] II. How do you regard the situation in southern Africa, and what is the USSR's position there?

[N.I. Ryzhkov] An acute crisis situation has arisen in southern Africa. The national patriotic liberation forces, advocating the final elimination of colonialism and racism on the African continent, are in a grave confrontation with the apartheid regime in South Africa. This racist, misanthropic regime has been branded by the world community as a threat to peace and international security and a challenge to mankind's conscience.

The Soviet Union firmly and consistently advocates the elimination of the ignominious apartheid system in South Africa and wholeheartedly supports the heroic struggle being waged against the racists by South African patriots, headed by the African National Congress.

Seeking to preserve its domination, the South African racist regime pursues not only a repressive domestic policy, but also an aggressive foreign policy aimed at destabilizing the situation in the neighboring "Front line" African states. They are all systematically subjected to acts of outright aggression by the South African military. Countries like Mozambique and Angola are also victims of undeclared wars which the racists and their hirelings have been waging against them for many years.

Naturally, the Soviet Union cannot be indifferent to this situation. The "Front line" States have a reliable and true friend in it.

It must also be said that the South African racist regime has for many years now, with the U.S. Administration's patronage, been blocking the UN demands for the decolonization of Namibia. The Soviet Union comes out resolutely in favor of resolving the Namibian question in full accordance with UN decisions, including Security Council Resolution 435.

The Soviet Government, guided by the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, advocates a collective search for ways of alleviating conflict situations in the world, and that includes southern Africa. That is our firm course, and we are prepared to join with all who seek the same thing, not in words, but in deeds, so as to find appropriate solutions in the interests of the peoples. Here too there is great scope for cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique.

[L. de Vas Conselos] III. The process of restructuring in the USSR has attracted the attention of the entire world public. What would you like to say about this?

[N.I. Ryzhkov] In April 1985 the CPSU Central Committee Plenum put forward the concept of accelerating our society's development, which was later approved at the 27th party congress. Thus the foundations were laid for tremendous work to implement profound transformations in the country's life. Basically we entered a new stage of socialist building.

The report of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central January (1987) Plenum clearly defined the meaning and nature of the restructuring as constructive work which is revolutionary by its nature and as a process of creative change in all sectors of socialist building. A drastic turnabout in society's development is objectively necessary to ensure a rapid pace in the simultaneous resolution of such important tasks as the dynamic development of the economy, the further improvement of the people's well-being, and the safeguarding of the country's defense capability.

The important part of the restructuring is only just beginning; the most difficult is still to come. It was stressed at the Central Committee January Plenum that major changes can already be seen and positive trends are gathering speed. At the same time the cause of restructuring has proved more difficult and the accumulated problems far more serious than previously imagined. To carry out everything planned, the utmost mobilization of forces and the utilization of socialism's potential in every way are required. The time available to implement our plans is very limited. That is because of the urgency of the problems we have to resolve, and also the complexity of the present-day international situation.

Soviet people are well aware of that and are becoming actively involved in the restructuring process. This is now the crux of the matter. For the restructuring to become the very life of our society, the main force -- the people -- must begin to operate at full capacity. To resolve this very important task the broad development of socialist democracy is necessary. Talking openly about shortcomings and problems, outlining ways of overcoming them, developing openness, criticism, and self-criticism, establishing control by the working people -- all this is the guarantee of the improvement of socialist democracy and the sound development of the whole of Soviet society. But in essence true democracy is creative. It is the implacable enemy of irresponsibility, demagoguery, and permissiveness.

Today, assessing again and again everything done since April 1985, we reach the profound conviction that the restructuring is gaining strength and that without it, it is impossible to achieve a fundamentally new condition of our society.

In November of this year the Soviet people will widely mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. As the CPSU Central Committee Appeal to the Soviet people on this jubilee says, our country was the first to put socialism into practice. The victory of October established historically unprecedented foundations for people's social existence: power of the working people in politics, public ownership of the means of production in the economy, and collectivism and comradely mutual assistance in human relations. These revolutionary transformations are the fundamental basis, the inexhaustible source of the socialist system's vitality.

[L. de Vas Consellos] IV. A last question: What is your assessment of the international situation?

[N.I. Ryzhkov] The world situation remains complex and dangerous. Dangerous above all because the militarist, aggressive forces of imperialism continue to spur on the arms race, are preparing to extend it to space, and interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states. In present-day conditions strong-arm politics and wars cannot be the means of resolving international problems, and the desire for military superiority cannot produce political gains for anyone, because you cannot win a nuclear war, or even the arms race. At the same time irresponsible attempts to achieve this create a real threat of world nuclear missile conflict.

The Soviet Union is opposed in principle to nuclear war and has pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Our foreign policy knows no higher goal than the prevention of nuclear catastrophe. This is the aim of the Soviet Union's major foreign policy initiatives, among which a special place is assigned to the program for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century and the comprehensive system of international security put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress.

On this fundamental basis a package of concrete, far-reaching proposals has been elaborated, proposals capable of leading the nuclear disarmament problem out of the impasse and opening up the path to a nuclear-free world. These proposals were put on the conference table in Reykjavik by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and took the disarmament problem to a fundamentally new level. Reykjavik showed the possibility exists for reaching agreement on the major problems associated with mankind's survival, and that a nuclear-free, nonviolent world is not a utopia.

Broad understanding and approval in the world, and especially Europe, greeted the Soviet Union's new constructive step recently. It is a question of singling out the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe from the package of questions and concluding a separate agreement on this problem with delay. This initiative opens up the possibility of substantially strengthening European security and lessening tension and the threat of confrontation where the two most powerful military groupings meet.

The active position of our party and the Soviet Union in international affairs is an expression of the new political thinking, without which there can be no mutually acceptable solutions or accords in the interests of mankind's survival.

In the struggle to preserve peace and establish just principles of international security we attach great significance to collaboration and solidarity with the liberated countries. We highly value cooperation with Mozambique and we pay due tribute to its contribution to the peoples' struggle against imperialism's aggressive policy and for the final elimination of colonialism and racism.

It is our profound conviction that for all the danger hanging over mankind, never before has the potential for preserving and strengthening peace been so real. War can be prevented and mankind can be saved from catastrophe by the peoples' united efforts. That is the historic mission of socialism and all our planet's progressive and peace-loving forces.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS VOSKANYAN'S COLOMBIAN VISIT

Meeting With Officials

PM301135 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Interparliamentary Ties"]

[Text] Bogota, 26 Mar — A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by G.M. Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is here on an official visit, visited the Colombian Congress where it was received by Congress President H. Pelayez Gutierrez and Congress Deputy President R. Gomez Ovalla.

H. Pelayez Gutierrez welcomed the Soviet guests on behalf of the members of Congress and all the Colombian people. We are happy, he said, to greet a delegation that has come to Colombia from a country playing a very important role in the world today.

Like the Soviet Union, Colombia bases its relations with other countries on respect and observance of the principles of noninterference in others' internal affairs and the strengthening of solidarity, particularly with countries on our continent; it also seeks solutions to common problems.

We are familiar with the profound transformation now taking place in your country and regard them in a positive light. We pay tribute to the Soviet Union for the efforts it is making to stop the arms race and achieve lasting peace on earth and peaceful coexistence between all peoples.

We regard your visit as a reflection of our countries' mutual desire to deepen our relations in the political sphere, which will have an effect on expanding ties in the economic sphere.

In an answering speech, the head of the Soviet delegation expressed thanks for the invitation to visit Colombia, conveyed cordial greetings on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet and all the Soviet people, and expressed feelings of respect and wishes of peace and prosperity to the Colombian people. I would like to note with particular satisfaction, he stressed, that exchanges of parliamentary delegations have become a good tradition between our countries.

The 27th CPSU Congress pointed out that we live in a very complex world today, when so many nuclear stockpiles have been amassed that any incautious step could lead to the destruction of mankind. Consequently, our government and party are doing a vast amount of work and waging a great struggle to preserve peace on earth and establish relations of goodneighborliness and cooperation between peoples and states, which are based on mutual respect and noninterference in others' internal affairs.

On instructions from the USSR Supreme Soviet, G.M. Voskanyan extended an invitation to the Colombian Congress to send a delegation to the Soviet Union on a reciprocal official visit.

On the same day the Soviet parliamentarians were received by Colombian President V. Barco. The head of the delegation gave a message to the president from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. He talked about progress made by the Soviet people in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and about the restructuring process now taking place in the USSR in every sphere of Soviet society.

This work has the aim of ensuring higher living standards for the Soviet people, their spiritual elevation, and the further democratization of our society. It is indissolubly connected with the Soviet government's efforts to take practical steps in the nuclear arms reduction sphere and to ensure lasting peace on earth.

V. Barco welcomed the Soviet parliamentary delegation on behalf of the Colombian Government. He said that Colombia is following the progress of transformations in the USSR with lively interest.

The USSR's foreign policy initiatives aimed at limiting the arms race and bringing about disarmament have met with a broad response in our country, the president noted. The positions of the USSR and Colombia coincide on the important issues of ensuring peace and disarmament. Colombia also does its utmost to ensure universal peace and disarmament.

In the course of the conversation there was also a detailed exchange of opinions on specific questions of developing relations between the USSR and Colombia. The president spoke in favor of the all-around, mutually advantageous development of trade, economic, political, and cultural ties between the two countries.

J. Londono Paredes, Colombian foreign minister, took part in the conversation, which took place in a congenial atmosphere.

Joint Statement

PM311452 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 5

["Joint Soviet-Colombian Statement on the Visit to Colombia by a USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by G.M. Voskanyan, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was in Colombia on an official visit 24 through 29 March 1987 at the invitation of the National Congress of the Republic of Colombia.

The delegation was received by Colombian President V. Barco, to whom a message from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was conveyed. Meetings and talks took place with Foreign Minister J. Londono; H. Gutierrez, president of the National Congress; G. Ovalle, president of the Chamber of Representatives; and Julio Cesar Sanchez, mayor of Bogota; and in the National Congress foreign affairs commission, with the participation of representatives of the main political parties.

The delegation laid a wreath at the monument to the outstanding figure of the Latin American peoples' national liberation struggle, Simon Bolivar.

In the course of talks with Colombian statesmen, politicians, public figures, and parliamentarians, which took place in a spirit of good will and mutual understanding, the most important international problems and questions of the development of bilateral relations were discussed, and there was an exchange of information on the activity of the two countries' supreme organs of state power.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation gave the Colombian side a detailed briefing on the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and spoke of the profound restructuring of all spheres of Soviet society's life which is under way in the Soviet Union and of the work aimed at accelerating the country's socioeconomic development. The delegation stressed that on the basis of the tasks of the country's internal development, the main aim of the USSR's foreign policy strategy is to secure for the Soviet people the opportunity to live and work in the conditions of a lasting nuclear-free and nonviolent world. This goal is not contrary to other people's interests.

During the examination of questions of the international situation the sides expressed concern at its continuing deterioration, the buildup of the nuclear arms race, the danger of the spread of the arms race into space, the undermining of the SALT II treaty, and the threat to undermine the ABM Treaty. The firm conviction was expressed of the need for a total ban on nuclear tests. In this regard the Colombian side's attention was drawn to the large-scale Soviet foreign policy initiatives, whose implementation would lead to a true breakthrough in the development of the international situation, mankind's liberation from nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction, and the creation of a comprehensive system of international peace and security. The USSR's proposal to isolate the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe from the package of issues and to conclude an agreement on it without delay on the understanding that the question of a substantial reduction and then the elimination of strategic arms is not removed from the agenda, was a major new step along the path to mutually acceptable accords in the nuclear disarmament sphere. The sides noted the special role of parliaments in the struggle to save mankind from nuclear catastrophe, eliminate seats of enmity and military conflicts, and build a nuclear-free, nonviolent world.

There was a shared understanding of the need to stop the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, and seek mutually acceptable solutions to other problems common to all mankind in the modern world. The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and ministers of the Colombian National Congress came out in favor of transferring the resources now being spent on military purposes to peaceful utilization, including the socioeconomic development of the world's peoples. They supported the UN General Assembly resolution on convening a UN conference on the relationship between disarmament and development.

The parliamentarians of the Soviet Union and Colombia noted that in the present-day international situation particular importance is attached to the normalization of international economic relations, the establishment of equal trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties between countries, free from all discrimination, and the safeguarding of states' economic security. In this regard they came out in favor of establishing a new world economic order and beginning global talks on the most important international financial and economic problems, including the problems of foreign debt.

The sides noted the need for a political settlement in Central American on the basis of ensuring the security of all countries of the region and respect for their sovereignty, national independence, and the right to independent development without outside interference. The USSR supports the constructive efforts of the Contadora Group and the Support Group aimed at a settlement of the situation in Central America through talks.

The sides noted the fruitful development of Soviet-Colombian relations and reaffirmed the two countries' desire to extend mutually advantageous cooperation on the basis of observance of the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. They noted the importance of the further development of fruitful contacts between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Colombian National Congress.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
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The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies visited the department of Guajira and studied the activity of local organs of power, industrial and agricultural enterprises, scientific institutions, and educational establishments.

The USSR parliamentary delegation expressed sincere gratitude for the cordial reception, attention, and hospitality, and conveyed an invitation to the Colombian National Congress to send a delegation to the Soviet Union on an official visit.

FURTHER ON CHEBRIKOV TOUR OF CUBA

LD312323 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 31 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Chebrikov, who is on an official friendly visit to Havana, and Fidel Castro visited the Institute of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering which cooperates with corresponding scientific establishments in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. At the Los Naranjos farm the visitors acquainted themselves with achievements in breeding high-productivity livestock and enhancing farming efficiency.

Fidel Castro and Comrade Chebrikov also visited the site of the tropical medicine institute. Comrade Chebrikov addressed a brief greeting to those present and wished the collective further successes. The visitors visited a number of schools, including the Ernesto Che Guevara Secondary School, which is a collective member of the Association of Cuban-Soviet Friendship. These meetings were a vivid illustration of Soviet-Cuban friendship.

On the same day a thorough conversation was held between Fidel Castro and Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov on questions of mutual interest. The conversation was businesslike and took place in a warm and cordial atmosphere.

CUBANS DENIED ENTRY VISAS TO PUERTO RICO

LD311002 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Havana March 31 TASS -- Washington has launched another anti-Cuban act within the framework of its sordid attempts at isolating Cuba in the international arena, the PRENSA LATINA agency said.

The U.S. State Department has denied entry visas to Puerto Rico to a Cuban delegation wishing to participate in the international meeting of creative workers of the Antilles nations. It was planned to be held in the city of San Juan, the capital of Puerto Rico, on the initiative of the university. In answer to Washington's crude demarche, the sponsors of the forum announced its cancelling. Avilda Palau, a prominent figure of the struggle for the granting of independence to Puerto Rico, who heads the ad hoc committee of the meeting, urged action in defence of the right of the university to hold such events with the broadest participation. The Cuban delegation was to include the republic's minister of culture Armando Hart Dávalos, Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon and chairman of the creative organisation of world renown "The House of Americas" Roberto Fernandez Retamar.

KOLBIN REPORT TO KAZAKH CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

PM270831 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 87 pp 1-3

["Report of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Bureau 'On the Republic Party Organization's Tasks Regarding the Fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum Decisions 'On Restructuring and the Party's Cadres Policy.' Speaker -- G.V. Kolbin, First Secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee" -- delivered at 14 March Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee plenum in Alma-Ata; according to a boxed note, "by virtue of a resolution by the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, the report and speeches are published in full"]

[Text] Comrades! Major changes are taking place in the life of the party and the whole of Soviet society, implemented in line with the strategic aims and decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th party congress. Positive trends are gathering pace in the country and a new moral and political atmosphere is taking hold.

Its typical features -- openness, truthfulness, implacability toward shortcomings, demandingness, and a nationwide desire to join in the revolutionary work of restructuring -- are increasingly noticeable and are firmly becoming part of public life. New impetus was given to all these processes by the party Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and the plenum report by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which laid down the party's specific theoretical and practical program on questions of restructuring and cadre policy.

The plenum itself and the discussion of the most important problems at it were a direct reflection of the need for restructuring in party work. The discussion was not curtailed, as happened for many years in the past, but was detailed, profound, and exacting.

The plenum unanimously advocated fuller utilization of the vast potential of our political and state system, comprehensive development of socialist democracy, and the deepening of people's self-management.

The plenum emphasized the need to resolutely step up the monitoring of cadres' activity "from above" and particularly "from below"; this means implementing demands for the work of leadership organs to be open to all and done in full view of the masses. It is to this end that the task was set of ensuring regular reporting by elected and appointed officials to labor collectives and working people, giving the working people the right to assess leaders' activity right up to raising the question of dismissing officials who fail to cope with their duties or compromise themselves.

It was decided that party organizations should constantly keep an eye on the certification of leadership cadres, specialists, and officials in the apparatus of state organs and public organizations, perceiving it as an effective means for collective monitoring of cadres' work and for encouraging their political growth and professional development.

For the purpose of preparing for this plenum, the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and all party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms set up coordination councils for work with cadres, which have taken over certain functions regarding the implementation of a number of questions involving the stepping up of restructuring. The Central Committee Coordination Council for Work With Cadres strove to extend the sphere of influence over a wider range of people -- workers, peasants, engineering and technical

staff, scientists, physicians, teachers, and party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol, and economic leaders. The task that was set was to teach people to work with people.

In the situation prevailing in the republic, this was dictated by the urgent demands not only to discuss but also to act practically in work with cadres.

It was from the positions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum's demands that the Seventh [Kazakh Communist Party] Central Committee Plenum examined questions of the development of the economy and the social sphere in the republic at the start of the current year.

An enlarged session of the republic Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed the imparting of profound and genuinely democratic meaning to the activity of soviets at all levels, their growing influence on all aspects of economic, social, and cultural building, the better utilization of local potential, the improvement of work in examining citizens' complaints, and the organization of reception sessions for the population.

The combat tasks of our largest mass public organization at a crucial period of our life were discussed at an enlarged session of the Kazakh Trade Union Council Presidium and were subsequently examined in detail at the 13th Kazakh Trade Union Congress.

From a standpoint of high party trust in young people, the republic Komsomol organization was oriented toward the solution of a number of most important questions. It must also join in the active work by party organizations to make rational use of existing labor resources, form stable labor collectives, eliminate the shortage of worker cadres in them, and consolidate the national structure of the working class to encompass representatives of all fraternal peoples living on Kazakhstan's territory.

A need also arose in this context to ensure the proper class tempering of young people about to graduate from schools, which called for embarking on practical measures to implement the demands outlined at the 16th Kazakh Komsomol Congress regarding the need for every young person to begin his working life actually on the shop floor. Work has begun on the selection of students for admission to VUZ's from all of Kazakhstan's oblasts, taking into account the national economic needs and simultaneously regulating the contingent of VUZ students in terms of the representation of different social groups and national structure while pushing to the forefront the interests of the national economy. As you know, specific tasks were set on the basis of the Central Committee January Plenum demands for the people's control organs, the courts, the prosecutor's office, the militia, the Kazakh Voluntary Society for Struggle for Sobriety Republican Council, and other public organizations.

We think that, following the Seventh Kazakh Journalists Union Congress, workers in mass news and propaganda media have become more fully aware of their exceptionally responsible role under today's conditions and are making a greater contribution to boosting mass public interest in the publicized materials.

So it is a specific feature of this plenum that intensive preparations for it started not by writing the report's theses, not by producing paperwork, but by means of direct practical measures aimed at fulfilling the Central Committee January (1987) Plenum decisions and implementing all its demands. This was also taken into account when setting the task of substantially changing the approaches to work with cadres, to the distribution and more rational utilization of labor resources.

The report by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke clearly of the need to work on the international education of people in the spirit of Leninist demands, the spirit of the 27th party congress guidelines that all nations and

ethnic groups must be represented in party, state, and economic organs and that the structure of leadership cadres must fully reflect the national structure. It was, moreover, unambiguously said that it was not a matter of a mechanical distribution of leadership positions or offices according to nationality, and that such an approach would be tantamount to vulgarizing the very idea and essence of internationalism. Political, professional, and moral qualities are what determines an official's character in all cases.

The republic's party committees were oriented toward adopting measures to establish an atmosphere of high mutual exactingness everywhere on a broad front and to impose order in everything, primarily through stepped-up individual work with people: open admission of mistakes and personal shortcomings, fresh performance appraisal reports on nomenklatura officials in all organs, and reports by Communists to primary party organizations and by leaders to their subordinates both in places of work and in places of residence.

Another powerful means of influence was the expression of lack of party confidence: the dismissal from party committee membership or expulsion from the promotion reserve pool of many people who were subsequently employed in rank-and-file work.

The personal appraisal and responsibility of officials have begun to be determined more significantly and actually on the basis of the results of collective activity. The Central Committee held several seminars for this purpose. One of them discussed in detail the question "On the Restructuring of Party Work in the Republic in the Light of the Demands of the CPSU Central Committee Resolution on the Perm Party Obkom," another was held "On Enhancing the Personal Responsibility of Members of Kazakh Communist Party Central Organs and Central Committee Apparatus Officials for the Fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum Demands." There have already been two meetings between party obkom first secretaries and members of the Central Committee Bureau.

The talk at these seminars and meetings was about the need to apply nonstandard approaches in the style and methods of work and the ability to learn principledness, demandingness, and thoughtfulness, to learn and to teach others to live and work under the conditions of restructuring, the new conditions of the development of democracy. This is all the more topical in that stagnation phenomena were particularly typical of our republic party organization.

The order being established everywhere ensures that everyone tackles all questions falling within his official purview concerning the development of the economy and the social sphere and the improvement of ideological and party organizational work. The task has been set of ensuring that everyone is able not only to conduct affairs themselves but also to involve all their assistants and coordinate their activity so that everyone "hits the same target," but each using his own methods and his own potential. It was in this vein that a thorough discussion was held with the republic trade union aktiv and the leaders of soviet, Komsomol, and other organs.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee has striven to build its work so that it not only talks about restructuring but also encourages people to specific practical action in this cause. Tremendous efforts have been made to ensure that people acquired faith in the possibility of solving the most complex problems, acquired faith in the existence of opportunities for this and in their own strength, and acquired faith that the difficulties are surmountable, the tasks are capable of being solved, and restructuring as a demand by life is necessary and irreversible.

Comrades! At a time when the republic has accumulated more problems than solutions to them, it has become clear that we can no longer take our time and that we must do everything to give people faith that substantial and noticeable changes in the solution of both general economic and social questions can be achieved quickly only by means of restructuring. The colossal experience accumulated by all party organizations convincingly proves that the most reliable way to perform any task, even the most difficult one, is through increased party influence on working people, well organized education of people, and lively contacts between them and leading workers.

Wherever party work focuses on man, wherever genuine concern is shown for man, that is where people reveal their potential better and more fully. In this context, it was decided to put a total stop to summoning leading workers to attend conferences on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays and to use Saturdays for all organizational and political events and the organization of cadre training. These three days that have become free every week are now being used for visits to primary party organizations and the collectives at shops, enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes.

Moreover, the task was set of ensuring that such contacts are not purely formal, often verging on a desire, so to speak, to take a break from conferences and relax on a tour of different parts of the republic or the oblast. The point is this: to ensure that everything positive noticed in some organization or another is efficiently and widely disseminated among all other enterprises and organizations. There must also be a swift response to shortcomings that come to light. Once they are encountered, it is important to determine whether they are typical of other organizations in order to resolutely eradicate their causes, their specific carriers in specific places, and to try to protect other comrades from anything negative.

In view of the fact that displays of rioting took place in Alma-Ata in December last year, the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee adopted as one of the determining avenues of its work on restructuring the solution of the question of imposing order in everything: The strengthening of discipline, the struggle against drunkenness, drug addiction, and unearned income, the stepping up of the struggle against criminal phenomena, and so on. Systematic and purposeful work was organized to this end under the leadership of the first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and the first secretaries of party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms. They took over the duty of coordinating the activity of officials responsible for ensuring end results in the solution of the aforementioned tasks.

The struggle against unearned income has taken various forms, including the eradication of negative phenomena like breaches of staff and financial discipline, whereby people who are employed on paper as workers perform the functions of employees not authorized by the establishment table. More than 6,500 such persons have come to light in the first 2 months of this year alone, and their annual wages fund amounted to about R10 million. The culprits are being called to account, and the supernumary personnel are being sent to the sphere of direct production.

Particular importance is being attached to the struggle against parasitical elements. Parasitism can take many forms: thieves or speculators, people who extort bribes or able-bodied idlers. V.I. Lenin called parasites enemies of the working people and demanded implacability toward them. "No mercy for these enemies of the people, enemies of socialism, enemies of the working people. War to the death..."

Loafing and parasitism -- these negative phenomena oblige us to wage the most persistent struggle against them. Taking the lofty demands duly into account, we must actively improve the moral and ethical atmosphere. It was for this purpose, as you know, that the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium adopted a decree on strengthening

punitive practices against thieves and all parasitical elements. Quite a few parasites have been thrown out of the republican capital in January and February this year and have been called to account for their deeds. The struggle against all negative phenomena, including criminal phenomena, is a struggle for social justice and for the ennoblement of the working man, a struggle for the affirmation of friendship among the peoples, and a powerful means of international education. This is because criminal behavior against representatives of a particular nation is often perceived as acts of nationally motivated persecution, which cause anger and irritation among people from different nations.

The thorough work done at all levels, from the Central Committee to the primary party organizations, to combat all negative phenomena and to impose order is yielding tangible results reflected in the restoration and strengthening of the moral and ethical atmosphere throughout the republic's territory. It is noteworthy that these good changes within a short time have been felt by all residents of Kazakhstan, who are expressing their positive attitude toward the measures being taken to protect citizens' rights by the republic's party, soviet, and economic organs, which is confirmed by the end results.

Comrades! It is well known that the restructuring of the mentality that has developed in people over the decades is an exceptionally difficult task. Therefore maybe we should not always strive to change it, so to speak, instantaneously, and in a number of cases different approaches ought to be found toward it, toward this prevailing mentality, and use must be made, so to speak, of the established mentality of the leader. It is, after all no secret that many leaders have been accustomed to ensuring the fulfillment of indicators for which they are held responsible. There may be no need to change this habit yet. Let us, for example, change the criterion for assessment, let us change the indicators that are subject to accountability. But let us determine indicators which can change in a fundamental and revolutionary fashion the situation as regards the solution of various questions, those that are pressing, those that must be sharply changed for the better.

For example, everyone has gotten used to the fact that the evaluation of leaders' activity to solve the housing problem was based on the number of square meters of housing handed over. The idea was that the existing base must show a tendency to grow, even if not by much. Such an approach always met with positive evaluations. But this throws no light on trends in the problem's solution, since no one knows whether housing questions are being solved or, on the contrary, the problem is growing and becoming more acute. After all, the waiting list for housing may be growing rather than diminishing. That was the superficial gross-quantity approach used in the republic. Report figures for square meters supposedly testified to active work in solving the housing problem, but essentially all the work was geared to ensuring fulfillment of the indicator. And people asked many questions in puzzlement: How come, given the developed industrial construction base in a very large republic which had acquired a powerful construction potential over the last few years, the state of affairs regarding the acquisition of housing was not improving but was deteriorating all the time.

And indeed, for many years the provision of total usable housing area for the population of Kazakhstan was 18 percent less than in the country.

The criteria for evaluating the solution of the housing problem are now being changed throughout the republic. The pace of advance in the housing waiting list is being taken as the basis. Work targets for each of the next three 5-year plan periods are being determined on the basis of an examination of the problems and tasks set by the 27th party congress for the period through the year 2000. The task for the 12th 5-Year Plan is to secure a state of affairs whereby the pace of advance in the housing waiting

list outstrips the pace at which the list grows. Hence the objective is to ensure that everyone on the waiting list at the start of this year acquires housing over the 5-year period, and that this is done at equal annual rates. People must feel tangible changes in the solution of such an acute social question as the housing question, which has become a key factor.

Enterprise and organization leaders everywhere are now reporting back to their collectives on the ways and methods for solving this task. Even 2 months ago this presentation of the question aroused downright perplexity among leaders even in the top echelon of the republic, but now no one has any insoluble problems.

Now the absolute majority of leaders of party and soviet organs, enterprises, and organizations have at last come to believe in the undoubted possibility of solving the task of commissioning at least 25 percent of the annual plan's housing in the 1st quarter of this year, and in the need for the annual target to exceed the plan target by 30 percent. Such an approach will enable the majority of organizations to supply housing as early as this year for one-fifth of those on the waiting list on 1 January 1987.

It is possible that in some places, in view of the shortage of time for launching construction by the own resources method and the solution of other organizational questions, people will not manage to fully and completely fulfill the set task. In such cases leaders must solve it according to results for the 2 years, in other words supply housing for at least 40 percent of the total number of people on the waiting list. A slight lag may indeed occur, but action must be taken under all circumstances to ensure that the waiting list for housing is reduced by equal amounts each year. And that people know and are confident that this work is not just a "burst of zeal" by party, soviet, trade union, and economic leaders, but a persistent and principled struggle to fulfill the 27th party congress demands as regards supplying each Soviet family with its own apartment or house. This struggle must constantly gather pace in every collective, village, rayon, city, and oblast and in organizations, ministries, and departments.

Broad openness in housing allocation is being established everywhere now, and the festive presentation of housing orders is becoming the norm. At the same time, measures are being taken to expropriate illegally acquired housing from those who, abusing their prestigious official position, used it for themselves, members of their families, close associates, and relatives.

We all know well, and not just from history, that our people can endure and have staunchly endured various adversities and privations, and even now many of them display understanding and patience as regards inconvenience and disorganization. But people have become more intolerant of instances of breaches and abuses and manifestations of injustice in the allocation of housing whereby, for example, someone has a well appointed apartment with surplus square meters or housing stands empty for years on end, while someone else, with a family of 10 or 12, lives in a 1-room apartment.

The question of affirming social justice is a question of special importance. It must always be remembered that the socialist revolution which triumphed in our country and whose 70th anniversary we will celebrate this year was accomplished for the sake of affirming the social justice organically inherent in socialist society.

Every age has its own tasks and demands. Therefore it must also have its own norms, rules, and methods of work. This is why it has become a matter of paramount importance to ensure restructuring and radical transformations in all our affairs, and primarily in party work. It is the party organs that must pursue the line of strictly

implementing the principles of social justice as the foundations of the socialist way of life. This has assumed particular importance at the present stage of socioeconomic development, the stage of a sharp breakthrough in the life of the party and the people, in the affirmation of businesslike efficiency, initiative, creativity, and principledness, which was given a powerful political and moral charge at the 27th CPSU Congress and the Central Committee January Plenum.

Party organs are called upon to create a moral and political atmosphere in which even skeptics would have no doubts regarding the correctness of this policy. And if certain unlawful actions or breaches of justice result in flaws in party or economic work, it is necessary to seriously consider why this happened, who is to blame, and how the situation is to be corrected.

As regards the organization of work to improve food supplies, we must openly and honestly tell everyone what we are dealing with. In recent years serious shortcomings were allowed to occur in our republic's agriculture and in stockraising in particular.

As you know, last August the CPSU Central Committee declared that the work done by the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and the republican Council of Ministers on the leadership of this sector was unsatisfactory. At previous Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee plenums we revealed in detail the causes of stagnation phenomena in the sector's development. And the main cause was the extremely weak feed base.

The desire to deliver millions of poods of grain at any cost forced individual republican leaders to go so far as to deliver feed grain and seed stocks and, after the victorious report, to go cap in hand begging the state for mixed feed. This pernicious practice was most widespread in the republic.

Judge for yourselves, the public-sector herd was supplied with only 46 percent of the concentrated feed it needed during the 11th 5-Year Plan. And this happened at a time of an acute shortage of coarse and succulent feed. But cadres' activity was evaluated solely on the basis of the grain they delivered. Consequently, stockraising gradually lost ground.

Livestock productivity did not rise during the 10th and 11th 5-Year Plans, while the incidence of animal disease and murrain increased. Only once did Kazakhstan cope with the plan for livestock and poultry purchases. Livestock products fell about R2 billion short of the plan. For all these and other reasons, per capita market meat stocks fell by 4 kg compared with 1975. People noticed this, complained, but did not know that the prime reason for the deterioration of food supplies in the republic was the so-called "star mania" whereby a large circle of leaders were primarily concerned with their ambitious desire to magnify their personal services by their so-called "diligence" and excel in grain deliveries.

Following sharp critical evaluations made by the CPSU Central Committee and after the causes of the problems in food supplies to the population in the republic were revealed, the approaches toward stockraising questions started changing back in the fall of 1986. More feed was procured, and the meat deliveries plan was overfulfilled by 62,000 metric tons in live weight. In the first 2 months of this year meat purchases increased by a further 5,000 metric tons compared with the same period last year, and milk purchases increased by 27,000 metric tons or 10 percent.

The availability of feed and the strict demands by leaders at all levels for fulfillment and overfulfillment of plan targets and for fuller utilization of the rights granted to the republic as of 1987 to utilize above-plan meat for local consumption have, of course, had an effect on improving food supplies.

By way of preparation for this Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, obkoms are engaged in systematic work to improve food supplies in terms of not only meat but also dairy products and vegetables, potatoes, fruit, and other produce. Moreover, the task has been set of ending the practice of self-assessment in this sector of work. The evaluation must be made by people, in other words by those for whom the work in question is meant. For this purpose everyone must be well aware of who is responsible to people for what so that they can know who to blame for any deterioration in supplies and who deserves credit for building up any positive trends in the solution of this problem. The struggle for man and for his active stance in the economic, political, and social sphere, which was discussed at the Central Committee January Plenum, primarily means setting a personal example, which must be done by Communists and especially by party leaders and party chiefs.

In fact, comrades, the first secretary of a party committee is far from omnipotent. The first secretary is a political worker who thinks on a large scale, is able to rely on the opinion and experience of thousands and thousands of people, and is capable of seeing further and deeper than the others. Moreover, we must take into account a very important fact: The party leader ought not to be, so to speak, simply a benefactor or a functionary in work on people's education. He must always remember that a political organizer is a representative of the leading party organs, and that by his stance, his range of personal sociopolitical qualities, his actions, and his attitude toward people's successes and shortcomings he embodies the essence of party organs. And these organs are armed with Lenin's truth, with Lenin's justice in everything.

V.I. Lenin invariably emphasized that honesty in politics is a sign of strength, while hypocrisy is a sign of weakness. And if the republican leaders declared that shortcomings in the supply of meat resources to the population can be attributed to the large volume of meat deliveries to other union republics, if they were downright unobjective and unconscientious in their evaluations, glossing over defects in their own personal work or their inadequate diligence in it, all this is something more than just a breach of justice.

In fact people were encouraged to think that Kazakhstan's grain goes to feed Russia, the Ukraine, a number of military districts, and so on. But the reality was this: During the 11th 5-Year Plan the republic delivered 63.1 million metric tons of grain to the state, and got back 16.5 million metric tons from state stocks in in feed grain and mixed feed alone. And speaking of the economy as a whole, during that same period we contributed to the all-union coffers considerably less than we received for our socioeconomic development.

Justice necessitates having the right to call people to account -- that is, you yourself must possess the qualities we demand of others. Often in our republic, especially in the management sphere, where, in contrast with material production, it is impossible to calculate with mathematical precision the quantity of labor input, personnel are accustomed to receiving benefits not according to the quantity of labor but according to official position. If something is a perquisite of office, they get it. But they themselves sometimes give society or the collective less than their office demands. This in itself is unfair. And since we have launched a struggle against unearned income, what are we going to do about such extant phenomena of individual parasitism? And especially if, to top it all, an official starts abusing his position and acquires excessive benefits which are not part of the perquisites of office? All this, comrades, generates not only dissatisfaction but also indignation, which is expressed in letters and complaints. But due attention was not always paid to such alerts from working people and citizens.

The basis for the Alma-Ata riots was provided by the presence of, so to speak, "flammable material" put together by extremist nationalist elements which managed to recruit some socially immature young students lacking firm immunity against provocative rumors and suggestions, to whom it was only necessary to insinuate or hint that our people are being "insulted," that they must show solidarity, that there is no other way to resolve anything, for them to prove ready to flare up and engage in unlawful activities and, egging each other on, to commit displays of hooliganism and outrages.

Analyzing the events of those days, today it can be said that the extremist nationalist elements are small in number and do not constitute any organization. They whispered, agitated, stirred up, and perfidiously excited the ideas of young people, and some of the people on whom they actively worked succumbed to the provocation.

But they were rebuffed by healthy forces. The attempt to drive a wedge into the very foundation of our existence -- Soviet people's international community -- failed ignominiously. And the absolute majority of Kazakhs, together with with the capital's multinational working class, formed strong volunteer detachments. The thousands of detachment members resolutely acted to impose and maintain order and resolved this task very swiftly, displaying unity of will, staunchness, courage, devotion to our socialist fatherland and the party's ideas, and devotion to proletarian socialist internationalism and the sacred friendship and fraternity of the peoples.

And today we say aloud that the Kazakh people displayed with renewed vigor their characteristic genuine internationalism and the loftiest and most respectful attitude toward all nations and peoples. The people correctly perceived and condemned the events. We cannot and have no right to clap the label of nationalism on the entire Kazakh people. This is not true, and we are convinced that it will never be true!

It is a different matter that today we are still not ready to evaluate who it was that nurtured the shoots of nationalist phenomena, albeit among a tiny proportion of people. This is a special topic. After careful study it will be necessary to return to it and submit it for discussion by a routine Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Plenum.

But, without waiting for this, today it is already perfectly clear that measures must be taken to eliminate defects in questions of international education and be embodied in practical deeds. Primarily through systematic work by the commissions for national and inter-nation relations set up under all party committees to ensure that all problems emerging both within and between nations are evaluated, analyzed and resolved at the level of these commissions. We must everywhere fully display and affirm genuine internationalism in deeds and at all levels. V.I. Lenin taught us to be able to be internationalists in deed -- this is the task which we must resolve without delay, constantly and fruitfully.

Work on people's education in a spirit of friendship and fraternity of peoples, a spirit of internationalism, must be done with representatives of every nation. It must be borne in mind that manifestations of nationalism among a certain proportion of representatives of the Kazakh people are as obvious as the fact that a certain section of the Russian population displays a intemperateness and a disrespectful attitude toward people of the indigenous and other nations.

Comrade M.S. Gorbachev said at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum that "nationalist infections can be successfully countered only by consistent and firm internationalism." We have not managed to counter them with consistent and firm internationalism. We have still not managed to completely eliminate manifestations of chauvinism.

And we must resolutely eradicate these phenomena, whatever form they take, as demanded by the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum.

Today we must determine measures to strengthen trust and more closely rally and unite people of all nations living in the republic, and must avoid actions which could undermine this unity and indivisibility. This is particularly important when some people's feelings are, so to speak, still running high and an atmosphere for perceiving objective evaluations of various phenomena in inter-nation relations has not yet been firmly established. Sometimes these frictions developed basically because, for a long time, we did not systematically and properly tackle the solution of these problems and even considered it awkward to speak of various nationalist or chauvinist phenomena. National relations are a particularly sensitive part of all relations. And if we really wish to improve them, no nation will be worse off as a result. To be an internationalist, V.I. Lenin emphasized, is "to think not only of one's own nation but to place the interests of all above it."

We must not display impatience, haste, or bias in the solution of all these questions. It is, after all, well known that V.I. Lenin warned specifically against the danger of any bias, since "any extreme is bad; anything good or useful, when taken to extremes, may become and, beyond a certain limit, certainly does become evil and harmful."

Today we must answer the question: Who ignited the flammable material? Who hinted and insinuated that the nation was being insulted? Much is already becoming obvious now. Let us reflect and build a logical chain: What are dealing with?

When someone hears one thing and sees something else in life, when he is told that things are going well but notices a multiplicity of shortcomings in practice, he begins to doubt what he is told at conferences and in reports and conversations. It is usually those who ignore science, advanced practice, the experience of others, and comrades' advice and rely only on their own imagination who allow a gap to occur between their desires and reality. V.I. Lenin described what happens with such leaders: "The machine shoots off out of control: There seems to be someone sitting there steering it, but the machine travels in the wrong direction... It travels in not altogether the way, and very often in altogether not the way, that the person sitting at the wheel of the machine imagines." The actual reality of life in the republican party organization was very much like this.

Great achievements in international education were constantly announced from rostrums, but the reality was displays of rioting in Alma-Ata provoked by nationalist elements. There was constant honeyed talk about the republic's prosperity while the rate of production growth was declining fast and the republic's development was achieved only thanks to constant subsidies from union funds. The belief was established in the public mind that republican organs were vigilantly keeping an eye on the observance of the principles of social justice in the solution of all vitally important questions, yet reality confronts us with disgraceful injustices. Judge for yourselves.

Princely mansions, so to speak, sumptuous urban and rural residences, and "hunting lodges" with saunas, greenhouses, billiard rooms, and even movie theaters and swimming pools were built for a narrow and select circle of leaders throughout Kazakhstan's territory. They were fitted out with expensive imported furniture and television and radio equipment, and filled with crystal, carpets, and other very expensive attributes of a princely lifestyle. And all these prestigious and comfortable mansions always stood empty awaiting visiting notables from the so-called privileged elite. How many people were paid to tend and guard these buildings hidden from the people's eyes! And here is the other side of the coin.

In the last 10 years only 68 percent of budget allocations for the development of health services in Kazakhstan were assimilated. Yet we are still, so to speak, "underdeveloped" in all spheres of medical services. What I mean is that we are short of the required level in ensuring the material base and appropriate services for patients, especially those suffering from oncological diseases or tuberculosis. The republic is lagging behind in the development of stomatology and pediatrics, in the provision of maternity homes, and so on. In virtually all areas of medical services we are below the level demanded by normatives and the working people's needs. What is behind all these and other negative phenomena?

Just before the Fifth Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, certain republican leaders who had not renounced parochial ambitions stressed particularly meaningfully that the republic's agriculture had developed so swiftly that Kazakhstan was, or so they claimed, supplying all of Russia, the Ukraine, and several military districts with grain and meat, as I mentioned before.

Over the 2 days in December, this planted idea was greatly amplified by the young people, incited by nationalist elements, who gathered in the square before the Central Committee building in Alma-Ata. How long, they said, are we going to feed everyone else while we have to do without and food supplies in Kazakhstan deteriorate?

We have already given a truthful answer to this question, but previously all this was concealed and covered up. Why was such an untruth circulated? Was it to fan national strife or to conceal the inability of the republic's leaders to run things properly? The latter, more than likely. But this latter factor also played a fateful role in the development of the nationalist feeling displayed in such a judicious [nelitsepriyatnyy] form.

Serious mistakes and distortions occurred in the implementation of cadre policy. It was founded on the principle of local allegiance and manifestations of national protectionism in the placement of cadres. This policy aroused and continues to arouse annoyance and condemnation in the republic's public awareness. It gave rise to numerous complaints and reports to the party Central Committee because it aggravated relations between the leading echelon of cadres from the indigenous nationality and people from all other nations, because obvious phenomena are impossible to conceal. Hence the atmosphere of dissatisfaction and indignation, evidence of which can still be seen in the letters coming in from people of various nationalities.

Here is what an author of numerous letters writes about the nature and consequences of the national protectionist policy previously pursued in the republic: "The absence of control and total license did their work. In the last decade Alma-Ata saw the spread of not only downright theft, embezzlement of the state, and toadying favoritism, but also of a policy that was perverting, nationally corrupting, and literally pernicious for the talented and good Kazakh people..."

"The circle of persons materially interested in the pursuit of this policy included quite broad categories of people who had illegally, not because of their services and talent, taken over leading, key positions, including positions in science, culture, literature, the courts, and internal affairs organs.

"Forming an entire stratum, they were all in one way or another interested in preserving their caste privileges and did not hesitate in the least to exploit the poisoned barbs of nationalism for this purpose..."

Indeed, Comrades, during the 2 days of rioting in the square, young people frankly expressed the view that they were not against a Russian in the leadership of

Kazakhstan's party organization, but we, they said, raise the question that this Russian ought to come from Kazakhstan. The names of likely candidates were given. Of course, those who expressed these views had not suddenly guessed at various options for the placement of cadres in the top echelon of the republican party organization. How did they know this? It was quietly whispered to them, an idea was presented to them which they publicly voiced in the square. And the essence of this secret idea was as follows. If someone had to be promoted, then let him be someone who would be to a certain extent dependent on the former leadership caste, which had occupied undeserved prestigious posts for many years, so that this new leader would not dare to lift a finger against dishonest people who were in the leadership, would not dare to launch a resolute struggle against all negative phenomena, and would not "wash dirty linen in public."

Now, after the passage of some time, the moral and political climate has started to improve. And the overwhelming majority of working people and citizens of various nationalities, including the indigenous nationality, frankly welcome the changes that are taking place as regards the imposition of order in everything, and positively appraise the measures being taken in the struggle against negative phenomena, the struggle to eradicate protectionism, nepotism, family or home-town favoritism, and abuses of official position, and to affirm social justice in the distribution of all wealth, be it the solution of housing, food, or other questions.

A barrier is resolutely being placed in the way of the desire felt by some leaders to gain everything from their office: enjoyment of life through entertainment and luxury at public expense.

Within a short time 247 "small" guesthouses, 84 cottages, 414 departmental hospitality apartments in residential blocks, 22 "hunting" lodges, and numerous other spare apartments and buildings have been made available to the Ministry of Health, children's institutions, or large workers' families, and for other social needs. These steps are worth a lot, especially bearing in mind that the building and upkeep of the mansions and residences was essentially a covert appropriation of someone else's labor, and mainly of social labor. Now all these well appointed facilities which have been handed over in the republic will be used by almost 15,000 people, not counting the additional hospitals, polyclinics, children's sanatoriums, libraries, and hotels for general use which have opened in these residences.

Leaders at all levels are being held more responsible for the fulfillment of their direct duties, and protectionism, overreporting, and other negative phenomena are being eradicated.

The republican party organization had and still has healthy forces, Communists devoted to the party cause. Many of them noticed the growing unhealthy tendencies, and spoke boldly about them at the 16th Kazakh Communist Party Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress. But no changes took place.

Many representatives among writers, the creative intelligentsia, scientists, professors, and academicians wrote frank letters to the CPSU Central Committee exposing all the negative phenomena involving cadre stagnation, lack of control, and total license which, for certain reasons, flourished in Kazakhstan for years on end. And how prophetic are V.I. Lenin's words that if you disregard the scientific approach toward work and comrades' advice, you are bound to find yourself in a situation where someone seems to be steering the machine, but the machine is not going in the direction and in the way imagined by the person seated at the wheel.

The republican party organization found itself in a position where the hands on the wheel of the machine belonged to people who were not entitled to steer it wherever they

chose, regardless of consequences. D. Bekezhanov, A. Statenin, A. Askarov, A. Mustafayev, A. Kisanov, A. Koychumanov, A. Karavayev, M. Makhanov, and others had their hands on the wheel. Now many of them are being called to account for what they have done. It was they who benefited from the protectionism whose bearers and defenders they were. All this was done under conditions of total license and lack of control.

Protectionism is the most terrible vice in cadre affairs. No other evil inflicts so much damage to public interests. Unlike crimes or some illegal deal, protectionism at times has a more open and innocent nature, penetrates all spheres of public activity, and puts down firm roots. Since protection is exercised mostly by high-ranking and influential persons, it becomes exceptionally pervasive and ensures success for those taking advantage of it. As a rule, they suffer no pangs of conscience. Selfish interest and advantage -- these constitute its sole guiding rule. The pernicious nature of this evil is further exacerbated by the fact that it provides a breeding ground for bribery, cliquishness, and toadyism in relations. The existing shortcomings in the style and methods of work of leading organs are to a large extent nourished and bred by the corresponding group interests.

There is no need to look far for examples. The protectionist actions of Bekezhanov, the former assistant of the former first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, confirm numerous instances in which people who had committed common criminal actions or actions incompatible with party membership -- the allocation of housing at personal discretion regardless of any rules and laws, the handing out of official posts -- were saved from the punishment they deserved. He did with impunity everything that could be "squeezed" out of his prestigious position under conditions in which boundless trust was placed in him. He also exploited this trust to the detriment of the cause. He enjoyed life. He had several rifles, used constantly to go hunting, even using aircraft, was waited on, and was wine and dined for free. Serious trouble befell those who tried to disobey him, to display "willfulness," so to speak, or to check whether the instructions relayed by Bekezhanov actually came from the first secretary of the Central Committee. So many people did what he wanted and he was openly feared, because he was the source of all injustices. He organized the collection of slanderous material and forced people to slander persons he disliked. All these are antiparty methods that Bekezhanov could not have used alone, without a mercenary group interest and without "support," so to speak. He had associates in the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee apparatus, including A. Statenin and certain others.

It was they who took part in preparing bogus documents and they who suggested how people should be "tangled up" in their schemes, how the truth should be obscured, and how total license should be established. Statenin was a clever organizer in seeking all kinds of revenue to enrich the cliquish "community." To provide it with material wealth, which, as is well known, distorts people's lives, world outlook, and behavior. Because their wages and other benefits accruing from their jobs were quite enough for a normal honest life. The only thing missing was family enrichment, the "accumulation," so to speak, of possessions and valuables just in case, for a rainy day, for their future progeny, children, and grandchildren, enrichment that became an aim in itself, that was dictated by rampant greed, and that went beyond any conceivable limits.

Reveling in total license, Statenin, Bekezhanov, and Lysyy used a TU-134 airliner -- just the three of them, without any other passengers -- for a pleasure trip from Alma-Ata to Khabarovsk, then Magadan and Petropavlovsk-Kamchatka. They were greeted everywhere as the most welcome guests. Mercenary interest lay behind all this: meetings, reciprocal gifts at state expense, and the acquisition a long way from home of anything that could not be obtained in Kazakhstan.

It has been established that Statenin organized an exhibition of Yugoslav furniture in Alma-Ata for the sake of indulging individual and group parasitism and totally unjustified growing demands. Together with A. Lysyy, former manager of the republic Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs Economic Administration, and T. Kaspakov, director of the Communist Party Central Committee Rest Home, he allocated expensive suites of furniture and other valuables to a narrow group of senior officials among the republic's Communist Party Central Committee and Council of Ministers without drawing up bills for payment. At the end of the exhibition they shared the furniture out among themselves, following the principle of distribution according to "labor": Those who had made a bigger contribution to carrying out the illegal operation were allocated more of the various valuable articles from the exhibition. It cannot be said that this was done on the spur of the moment and without premeditation. There were carefully thought-out "protective" measures, and a "story" was worked out to justify this premeditated crime if the illegal operation was suddenly discovered. After all, they were all senior people and did not think it very sensible to "blow" their reputation over such trifles. Consequently a way was found of paying for the foreign exhibits that had been hauled off piecemeal to various apartments at wholesale, if not retail prices. The check that was carried out later established that this band underpaid at least around R30,000. Not to mention a whole series of other violations linked with the illegal operations.

Now that the question of accountability to the party and the state has actually arisen, they have begun to twist and turn, pin the blame on others, and cite various circumstances: The orders came from above, they say, we were carrying out the wishes of a higher-ranking leader, we aren't the kind of big shots who can decide questions like that independently, and so forth. What can be said about this?

It is a matter of people's conscience; conscience prompts a person to take some actions and keeps him from taking others. Naturally, different people have different degrees of conscience. And conscience does not prompt everyone to act nobly. Conscience is a moral term. But what kind of conscience can people with a dual morality, two-faced people, have? It transpired that they were among those who would calmly walk past outrages and would not defend justice but could be accomplices in any unsavory deed. For the sake of self-preservation they are now fingering other people, quite calculatingly, in the belief that their own unlawful actions might be shielded by the authority of a higher-ranking leader, in view of which they might escape the responsibility that they ought to bear.

The question of people's scrupulousness and conscience at the present moment in our republic is a separate issue. Conscience, like an internal regulator between good and evil, in a way reflects a person's responsibility to himself, his dear ones, the collective, society, and mankind. The voice of conscience is a person's reliable inward judge and awareness of his correctness and dissatisfaction with himself. The overwhelming majority of members of our society possess conscience in the highest degree. They are the majority who have openly come out in struggle against those who have lost their conscience, who use everything possible about their posts for personal prosperity for their dear ones and friends, and who cobble together groups of people of their own kind and operate on the basis of the principle that "you scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours." In a number of cases these groups proved so all-powerful that sometimes even the mass of honest people possessing high consciousness and sufficient scrupulousness found it very hard to oppose them.

Everyone regarded A. Askarov, who used to work as first secretary of Alma-Ata and then Chimkent party obkoms, as the most odious figure in the republican party organization. He unpardonably abused his official position and pushed people into large-scale financial violations. The construction at his personal demand of unplanned projects

using diverted funds from various organizations cost over R7 million. Using its own funds, the "Chimkentselstroy-25" Trust hastily, without any estimate or plans, constructed a particularly swanky building at the "Sary-Agach" Sanatorium. This 450-square-meter villa intended for notables was finished in high quality materials and supplied with radio apparatus worth a total of R70,000. It was officially put down in the books as a 12-room apartment block. A special "hunting" lodge with two bedrooms, a living room, a dining room, and a separate 3-room apartment with a total area of 230 square meters was constructed in the oblast. The lodge was provided with mains power and a telephone link and 14 km of motor road were constructed for it. The only visitors to the lodge were Askarov and his entourage.

There was also a direct link between the "leading nucleus" of the Chimkent Obkom and those who held prestigious posts in the Communist Party Central Committee apparatus which their services and talents did not deserve. The mutual protection established in public opinion an awareness that Askarov's power was boundless. He too hinted that. Askarov warned V.L. Siskov, former chief of an administrative organs sector of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee who took part in the work of a CPSU Central Committee team inspecting the Chimkent party obkom's activity: "Why is a Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee official 'ferreting around' more than CPSU Central Committee officials?" He openly said that Siskov would never work again in the Central Committee apparatus. A few days later all this came to pass and the "vengeance" was carried out.

In order to establish his unlimited power Askarov picked for work in his entourage the kind of people who would stoop to anything to punish the disobedient and those he disliked and would butter up grovelers, toadies, and flatterers beyond all measure. It was on the basis of these considerations that L. Bekzhanov was elected first secretary of the Chardarinskiy party raykom.

Back when he was chief of the Dzhizak Uzbek Communist Party Obkom Organizational Party Work Department he had shown himself to be an arrogant and rude official with a propensity for adventurism. Fearing he would be called to account, Bekzhanov moved to Chimkent and was hired as party obkom instructor. Within a short time he became party raykom first secretary, began to abuse his official position, resorted to pernicious methods of leadership, insulted and intimidated his subordinates, humiliated their human dignity, organized militia surveillance of them, and repeatedly tried to talk certain people into making denunciations. He promoted people lacking the requisite professional and political qualities to responsible posts and shielded them from responsibility for violating party and state discipline. He has now been expelled from the party. Bekzhanov was not alone among Askarov's close associates, there were quite a few people of his sort.

As is well known, A. Mustafayev, former first secretary of Abayskiy party raykom in the city of Chimkent, enjoyed Askarov's special favor -- he was relieved of this post after his patron's downfall. It was established that he took bribes over a long period. Moreover, displaying an animal greed for gain, he would stoop to anything to achieve his aim: He organized provocations, engaged in blackmail, and threatened to kill officials and members of their families unless the money was paid on time. Mustafayev has now been arrested, but before his arrest he displayed his "trademark." When Tazybekov, chief of a cab depot who had given him a bribe of R7,000, told the appropriate organs of this, Mustafayev went to see him and, threatening to kill him and his children, forced Tazybekov to renounce his previous testimony.

Investigations are now also under way with regard to a number of other officials, including the case of G. Dmitriyev, who, when working as the chief of the Chimkent Oblast Passenger Motor Transport Administration, organized a system of bribery and

mutual protection there. He systematically took bribes from the chiefs of motor vehicle enterprises under his authority and passed on considerable sums of criminally obtained money to Karavayev, the republic's former minister of motor transport, and his deputy Makhanov, and also to certain party workers. According to preliminary figures, they received R88,000 in bribes, along with carpets, furs, radio equipment, and other valuables.

There appeared in Chimkent Oblast's party organs people with careerist, egoistical inclinations who attached paramount importance to satisfying their own interests, obtaining various material benefits, awards, and titles, and perpetuating their own memories. Drunk with power which had lost all limits, they were intolerant of criticism of their actions and in general of any dissidence. Public reproaches, harassment, and other trouble lay in store for anyone who dared talk out of turn. Relations and associates were given every support in official advancement, and indulgence and protection were extended to them when they committed official misdemeanors and mercenary abuses. The total license and impunity promoted the development of bribery and corruption and flourishing mutual protection and group embezzlement in various economic spheres. These phenomena flourished most vividly in Chimkent Oblast during A. Askarov's period there as party obkom first secretary (1978-1985).

As from 1979, the criminal practice of overreporting raw cotton production when it fell short of plan fulfillment took root in the oblast's cotton-producing and ginning enterprises. The overreporting was concealed by inflating the norms for waste. Thus whereas in 1971-1978 6.3 percent was written off as waste, 13.4 percent was written off in the following years, after Askarov's arrival. As a result in 6 years 138,000 metric tons of raw cotton worth R50 million were written off as waste in excess of the normative. Of course, the wages, bonus payments, and awards for the nonexistent cotton were received by the direct agents in this large-scale swindle and by their instigators. Criminal proceedings have now been brought against over 60 people for this crime. The investigation continues.

These and many other examples cogently testify that, taking advantage of the total license and lack of control, many people had their hands on the controls of that huge machine I mentioned earlier. Anyone who wanted to would spin the wheel, but invariably in his own mercenary direction. And the imposition of order in everything in accordance with the demands of the Central Committee April Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress goes against the grain with such people because it may be followed not only by an end to the lawlessness they have perpetrated but also by accountability to the party and the state for their actions. All this inspired the fear that they long felt pending the inevitable change in the leadership of the republic party organization.

In their position what could they come up with? Just one idea: not actually saying but merely "tipping the wink" and hinting that the nation was being insulted, and then the tinder would burst into flames. And was this not the best means of exploiting any opportunity as a basis for self-preservation since in our country it was not customary to speak openly of nationalist phenomena? We were ashamed of this and in some places made direct concessions, including that of forgetting the criminal actions behind these phenomena.

Thus at this stage the study of all the reasons and circumstances leading up to the negative manifestations in December of last year in Alma-Ata shows that there were plenty of people to apply the match to the tinder. The question naturally arises: Should these people and those alongside them bear the responsibility for what happened, even if they had been spinning the wheel of a huge machine without supervision?

It is well known that if a railroad worker changes a switch wrongly, even if he does so inadvertently, and two trains collide, he will answer for this in full measure. But what if people collide with one another? The question of responsibility and of assessing what has happened is not an idle one; we will have to return to it again. We must carefully investigate everything, but act strictly and act very fairly.

The aforementioned people used their official position recklessly and by their actions undermined the authority of many party and soviet organs and state institutions in the republic. They undermined people's belief in justice. Today they are receiving the punishment they deserve for their actions. Some have been expelled from the party, criminal proceedings have been or are to be brought against others, and some have been arrested. As for responsibility for the disturbances last December, the direct agents [ispolniteli] have been punished: Some have received criminal penalties, others administrative penalties. But who was the ringmaster?

Today logical thinking suggests the conclusion that the ringmasters may have been those who had an interest in such manifestations for the sake of self-preservation and in shielding themselves from accountability to society, the party, and the state. That is logical. But before the next Central Committee Plenum we must fit everything firmly and clearly into place and assess who is who.

The whole point now is, by analyzing what happened, making critical assessments, and saying how matters should not be conducted, to determine methods and means of work that will change the situation sharply for the better. The resolution of this complex task can be ensured only if we are guided strictly by the demands of the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, the 27th party congress, and especially the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

It is already obvious to us that the most important thing is to preclude any abuses and to join in vigorous work to impose order in everything and to strengthen discipline everywhere. In work with cadres the line of strengthening individual work with people, especially using forms and methods already tested during the preparations for the present Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, must be continued. We must realize that it is impossible to establish openness and the principles of democratism that were proclaimed with new force by the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum without resolutely eradicating protectionism and the former pernicious practice of placing cadres on the basis of local favoritism, kinship, and acquaintance, since this precludes the possibility of just and objective approaches toward, say, the choice of the collective's leader. This increases trust in and respect for leaders and strengthens working people's belief in the just and universal nature of all citizens' rights and duties.

The "grassroots" must have the first say and the final say in cadre decisions in collectives. They have a better idea of how human a person is. After all, when one person wins a competition, it is not he who wins. The winner is democracy and the entire collective. But how is it possible to objectively elect a talented and businesslike leader in a VUZ when many people linked by family bonds and ties of kinship are working right alongside? Thus over 90 personnel have kinship ties in the Kazakh State University, 46 in the Kazakh Polytechnical Institute, 44 in the Rudnenskiy Industrial Institute, 35 in the Alma-Ata Institute of the National Economy, and so forth. This is scarcely conducive to creating in collectives an atmosphere of principledness, openness, criticism, and self-criticism or to the process of democratizing life within VUZ's in general.

We must cleanse the apparatus of party, soviet, and other organs in the republic, in the oblasts, and at local level of those who came to work in crucial spheres not out of

dedication to the communist ideals or in order to selflessly serve people and safeguard nationwide interests but in the name of personal prosperity.

The struggle against negative phenomena in the republic, as we have already said, demands that all work be begun with people. We must all get down to overcoming all the accretions and establishing social justice in the name of increasing people's social activeness. Life confirms at every step that it is very important to conduct a frank and trusting discussion both with Communists and with everyone. We have tried to ensure that everyone knows our difficulties and shortcomings and what the unsolved problems are. Then everyone will find his place in the common struggle.

Along with information coming down from above, which we now provide constantly and frankly via the press, television, and radio, we have at the same time begun the daily collection, analysis, and generalization of information from below -- from labor collectives and primary party organizations. For this purpose groups of staff personnel and members of the ideological aktiv have been set up in the Propaganda and Agitation Departments of the Central Committee and party obkoms; they use material reflecting both the positive and the negative elements in people's public opinion. Use is made of material at the disposal of party, soviet, and economic organs and of information derived from letters received from working people.

This information is generalized each week and is reported to the leadership of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and party obkoms, and appropriate measures are formulated and adopted on it. Including measures on suppressing disinformation and on the existing problems in work and their elimination. A press rubric has been introduced under which public opinion on particular issues is set out once a week.

We believe that public opinion, which is worthy of respect and protection, is, so to speak, the nervous system of democracy and openness and that it is important to protect it from the corrupting influence of once influential persons.

Leaders are everywhere reporting to their subordinates on the solution of the housing problem and the ensuring of economic indicators, and the subordinates are assessing leaders' activity. There are meetings and reports by leaders at their place of residence, including by the personnel of internal affairs organs, the courts, the prosecutor's office, and other agencies. In short, the time made it necessary to turn openly to the opinion of Communists and all our public, especially during the period of preparation for the present Central Committee plenum. The rubrics devoted to preparations for the plenum revealed ways of restructuring in solving social questions and of eliminating the shortcomings in the republic's economic development and in work with cadres.

The party teaches us to display a creative approach to matters and to establish an innovative and businesslike style of work and a most concrete and specific approach in implementing the outlined plans. However, a creative style and creative approach cannot be formed overnight, immediately. They strengthen, develop, and are established only in a creative atmosphere, with the most vigorous participation of all Communists, and with the guiding, leading role of primary party organizations, when everyone is set real and specific practical tasks. Only then can everything obsolete and outmoded and everything retarding our progress be jettisoned.

We must attach particular importance to work with people in this. M.I. Kalinin once said: "You can make good use of people if you treat them humanely. If a misfortune has befallen them, you should support them and not treat them formally... People must be able to approach you freely and say anything they like... Try to ensure that people trust you. You don't necessarily have to meet their requests, but you must be accessible, it is from that that a link with the masses stems."

What sometimes happens in our republic is that when many people approach party or soviet organs some officials begin muttering under their breath and getting irritable -- look what things have come to, they say, there's never a moment's rest.

Recently there has been a big increase in the amount of correspondence received by the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee. Suffice it to say that in January and February alone the Central Committee received almost as many letters and statements as it did in the whole of 1986. People poured in to see secretaries and section chiefs. This can only be grounds for joy, not annoyance. Because it is a display of people's trust in the organ that they are approaching.

During the preparations for our plenum much began to change sharply for the better. That applies to both the solution of urgent problems and work with cadres. But in order to achieve this most of us have had to work from very early in the morning until late evening, often without days off. You have to admit that that is a hard routine, and not everyone can stand it. Nonetheless, working like that, hard and productively, gives everyone tremendous pleasure because it produces results, there is a visible return on what has been planned and done. People are noticing these results and talking about them, are approving our actions, and, most importantly, are actively supporting them with their own efforts. This is the highest possible assessment of our work and of the start of restructuring. Precisely of the start. So we constantly feel a sense of healthy dissatisfaction: Not everything that has been done suits us yet.

Further new approaches and new quests are needed in work with cadres, because many people have still not joined in the process of active restructuring -- some out of inability, others out of reluctance, yet others out of the force of inertia.

Practice suggests that the start of restructuring must originate from the leadership and management apparatus -- of the party, soviet, economic, or other organ. The party has always been concerned to ensure that the standard of the apparatus' work accords with the tasks set by the specific historical situation. The apparatus must be tailored to our new conditions.

We encounter many instances in which responsibility for problems and omissions has been reduced. For instance, we have all been accustomed to the fact that certain personnel from the apparatus of many republican ministries and departments duck responsibility, refuse to run risks, and firmly subscribe to the principle: It is better for the cause to suffer than my prestige. If you make a mistake you will lose all your privileges, but if you decide nothing you will answer to no one. So they decide nothing!

For this reason the bell is sometimes the main yardstick in work. Once it heralds the end of a department's work so-called senior officials will trample anyone underfoot as they all rush off home, even if urgent questions have not been decided. This is why there is much criticism of ministries, departments, and other republican subdivisions from party obkoms, oblistpolkoms, and the personnel of party, soviet, and economic organs and all subdivisions in the republic.

All this is causing great concern. This is because the sluggishness in restructuring of the economic leaders of various republican departments is clearly visible. There is plenty of work for the republic Council of Ministers, Supreme Soviet, and Communist Party Central Committee to do here.

Comrades, we must spot and find ways of correcting the shortcomings and failings in people that have, as it were, legitimized their own existence over the course of time. Take the failing of exaggerating difficulties. That is not such a harmless

phenomenon. It can be encountered all over the place. What lies behind it is mercenary interest, sponging, parochialism, and extortion from the state. As soon as the thaw begins, what is sometimes downright disinformation pours in to us: All the winter crops have rotted or have been killed by the cold, and the moisture reserves are minimal. There is a definite point to all this: If you plead poverty and bemoan your plight, you'll get more than the others.

We must constantly think and take measures with regard to assessing leaders' level of party education. When you analyze the situation you constantly think just how much effort we still have to make to ensure the restructuring in the awareness, thinking, and activity of cadres defined by the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum. And what a topical ring there is today to Lenin's remark that decisive sectors of leadership must be occupied by "...people who are not only certainly dedicated, but people who are really educated and who possess tremendous abilities, ...talented people..."

Nowadays we have a tremendous number of such people, they need only be identified and promoted. However, we constantly tolerate, to put it mildly, not very talented people in leadership positions. Ostensibly out of humanitarian considerations and on the pretext of giving them some time and "giving them a chance." And this "chance" drags on for an unconscionable time. In fact this is no kind of humanism. Is it humane when, by protecting an individual's interests, we jeopardize the interests of the general cause and the interests of an immeasurably larger number of people?

The new demands of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum with regard to the promotion of nonparty comrades to leadership posts prompt serious reflection. A reserve of cadres for promotion, as is well known, is formed in every labor collective and every administrative organ. But very often its composition is frozen for a long time, for years, and is not reinforced with fresh new forces. The principle of party membership has long been established as the determining factor in our republic. To propose a nonparty person, even a worthy one, for a leadership post is even regarded as a bit ridiculous. For instance, the nomenklatura of the soviets and trade unions and the people's control and other subdivisions contains not one nonparty leader. V.I. Lenin once wrote: "We still constantly see the legacy of the first period of Soviet power... which finds expression in the fact that Communists form a narrow circle of rulers, fearing or being unable to involve sufficient numbers of nonparty people in the cause."

Party members now constitute around 10 percent of large collectives. This means that 90 percent of the collective's members are not included in the reserve for promotion since they are not party members. How many talented people are left outside vigorous activity! But that is not all. "Most people," V.I. Lenin said, "derive their convictions from life." It cannot pass unnoticed that many high posts are filled by Communists. They are seemingly not open to nonparty people. So you sometimes hear caustic remarks: "The bosses can get away with anything, they are all in it together."

Our state has a one-party system. And our party is a ruling party. So it must be extremely fair in placing both Communist and nonparty cadres. This question is very delicate, and we must display particular sensitivity in it. If you deviate from strict party control, you will prompt a desire to join the party not from the best of motives but for mercenary purposes, out of a desire to go up in the world, to have a leadership post, and to obtain great benefits.

In the last 10 years 36,000 people have been expelled from the party in our republic, 13.9 percent of them for violating party and state discipline, 26.7 percent for moral laxity in everyday life, drunkenness, and hooliganism, and 37 percent for common crimes, bribery, and speculation. In this connection it is important to stress that

83.7 percent of those who were expelled from or left the party had over 5 years' membership. This cogently reveals the atmosphere of all-forgiveness and the lack of strictness in party work which over the years produced tolerance of party comrades' moral, ethical, and political deficiencies.

Political leadership of the masses is a science and an art. A science in that it is impossible to lead the masses unless you know the laws of social development and have a clear perception of the goal to be attained. And an art in the sense that you cannot demand even of a worker with training in theory that he know in advance every detail of how a given phenomenon or event will develop and what the situation will be. The party worker often has to be guided by his political flair. That is an important weapon in his combat arsenal. You cannot be voluntarist in picking the link you want to tackle. V.I. Lenin wrote: "You need to have your own head on your shoulders to be able to understand each separate eventuality. Incidentally, the importance of the party organization and party leaders worthy of the name lies in instilling, through long, persistent, diverse, and all-around work by all thinking representatives of the given class, the necessary knowledge, necessary experience, and -- in addition to knowledge and experience -- the necessary political flair to swiftly and correctly solve complex political issues."

In exercising political leadership through the selection, placement, and education of cadres, the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee has set a task -- to tackle in the process of restructuring the solution of the most acute issues that have remained unsolved over the years and in whose implementation all the republic's working people are interested. The point is that, with the replacement of the leadership of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, the Council of Ministers, and many party obkoms and oblispolkoms in the time since the Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, marked, tangible changes have occurred for all people of Kazakhstan.

So it has been decided in order to ensure that proper end results are achieved to take fundamental spheres of work like: the solution of the housing problem; the improvement of food supplies to the population; the provision of parcels of land for the development of collective horticulture to everyone who would like one; the development of all types of paid services in every possible way; the development of citizens' individual labor activity in accordance with the law that has been adopted; the improvement of the level of economic activity in every possible way and the ensuring of high economic and social results. [sentence as published]

In his report at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum Comrade M.S. Gorbachev particularly noted that "...restructuring is gathering strength more rapidly wherever party raykoms and gorkoms are acting more vigorously, in the new way. And this is natural. They are closest of all to primary party organizations and labor collectives and therefore to the front line of the struggle to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development."

It was emphasized that the prime duty of party committees under conditions of restructuring is to head the masses' creativity, to help people to eradicate shortcomings more rapidly, and to really organize matters.

It is precisely from this standpoint that the work of the republican party organization is being evaluated. The organization now contains 824,000 Communists united in 22,800 party organizations. Their work is directed by 48 party gorkoms and 255 raykoms.

That is a great force, comrades. It is important to channel it in the correct direction and to find the most effective methods of practically applying it.

We must attach particular importance to questions of international education. You sometimes hear it said that everyday life demands the solution of particular questions of national and inter-nation relations. And that the Communist Party Central Committee ought to handle these questions more firmly and more strictly; others say the reverse -- they ought to be handled more gently. I think that the point is not whether national policy is conducted more firmly or more gently in conditions of our multinational republic.

It is rather a question of conducting it fairly, in strict accordance with the Marxist-Leninist understanding of this most important question in conditions of the increased education and culture of all the nations and ethnic groups inhabiting Kazakhstan. Justice, the establishment of justice at every step, whether it concerns cadre questions, the allocation of material benefits, housing, food, or other goods, or national and inter-nation relations, is the main link that all forces of the republican party organization and absolutely everyone should today grasp in order, learning lessons from the past, to ensure the masses' labor and social activeness, our party's political line, and unshakable loyalty to the Leninist banner and the cause of Great October. This is the meaning of the historic decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, this is the meaning of all our party political work, from the Communist Party Central Committee to the primary party organization.

FURTHER ON POSSIBLE RADIOACTIVITY 'LEAK'

Possible Chemical Weapons Leak

PM251337 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 22 Mar 87 p 4

[Roger Magnergard report: "Reports in Estonia: Soviet Missile Base Evacuated After Accident"]

[Text] A leak of radioactivity or an accident involving chemical weapons seems to have hit a Soviet nuclear base in northeastern Estonia.

The accident which is said to have happened 1.5 to 2 months ago is reported in the latest edition of EESTI PÄVALEHT ["Estonian Daily"]. The newspaper's source is an elderly woman who has been in contact with one of the people worst hit by the mishap.

The missile base is in a place called Keila Joa, around 20 km west of Tallinn. There are three or four missile bases there for medium-range missiles, that is, missiles of a range that limits them to targets in Scandinavia and Poland.

Witnesses from Estonia have reported that the missile base was suddenly evacuated. All the military personnel disappeared. Equipment, living quarters, launching ramps, and missiles were however, left behind. A few days later all the sheep on a nearby kolkhoz died.

The area is sparsely populated. However, the local forest ranger developed a mysterious blood disease. In the course of a few weeks doctors changed his blood on two occasions. Since then he has lost his hair.

The forest ranger and his family have been urged not to drink water from their well, because the groundwater "is dangerous." Instead they are provided with water from a tanker.

According to Gunnar Bengtsson of the Institute of Radiation Protection there have been no measurements of radiation levels in Sweden that could indicate an accident in the area.

"But losing your hair and developing blood diseases are generally connected with radiation," Bengtsson said. "But then there would be a high level of radiation which ought reasonably to affect other people in the area."

According to Bengtsson there are no immediate radiation risks from nuclear arms that are not activated.

"The only way in which radiation can get out is through a nuclear explosion. Nothing like that has been registered from Estonia."

Therefore Bengtsson thinks it possible the forest ranger's illness and the death of the farm animals could be due to a leak of chemical weapons.

Norway Institute on Problem

LD311425 Stockholm International Service in Sweden 1000 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] The Norwegian Institute of Radiation Protection registered increased radioactivity in February in Norway and Sweden, MORGENBLADET writes in Oslo. The radioactivity is believed to originate from an underground explosion somewhere in the USSR, or from a military base in Estonia. However, the levels were so low that neither the Norwegian nor Swedish authorities saw any reason to issue warnings, the Norwegian newspaper writes. The increase in radioactivity was less than one-one hundred thousandth part of the emission after the reactor accident in Chernobyl last spring, according to MORGENBLADET.

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 30 MAR

LD010706 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 30 March. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

Farms in northern Uzbekistan have begun sowing cotton. (0100)

The sowing of cotton plants began today in Tajikistan. (1000)

Two sovkhozes have started planting vines in new industrial vine-growing zones of Tajikistan on the slopes of the Kuraminsk range. New strains of early ripening vines are being used, which can produce grapes in June. (1100)

The quarterly plan in the Ryazan Oblast has been fulfilled ahead of time with 120,000 metric tons of milk being dispatched for processing. As well as contract teams and financial autonomy, there has been a system of check control over the expenditure of material and labor reserves. (1100)

The collegium of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources has examined the further development of household plots. While there have been individual successes, the work of such plots has been poorly organized in the union ministries of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Armenia. The collegium requested that leaders accelerate the setting up of highly viable household plots and transfer feed production to family contracting on plots of no more than 100 hectares in area. More waste food products should be used in animal feed. (1100)

Most farms in the Ukraine are ready to begin field work. This year the republic will sow almost 3.5 million hectares more than last. This is because winter crop sowing was not completed due to the dry autumn, while some winter crop fields are in poor shape and need to be reinforced with spring sowing. (1300)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan has adopted a resolution on the wide distribution of the experience of Tajik cotton growers who managed last year to collect the entire harvest of raw cotton with their resources and without including students and schoolchildren. It is expected that this result will be achieved in Azerbaijan basically by means of further increasing the level of mechanization of operations and organizing a two-shift system. This picking season it has been decided to correct the situation and pick no less than half the harvest mechanically. (2300)

MORE ORBIT PAYLOAD DETAILS OF SPACE MODULE GIVEN

LD310649 Moscow TASS in English 0626 GMT 31 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- A specialized astrophysical module. "Quant." [as received] Was put into orbit by a "Proton" booster rocket in the Soviet Union today under its space research programme.

The module is intended for carrying out a wide range of investigations in extraterrestrial astronomy and for solving a number of other scientific and economic tasks.

Its scientific equipment includes an international orbital observatory, "Roentgen," developed by scientists of the Soviet Union, Britain, the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Space Agency, as well as an ultraviolet telescope, "Glazar", developed in the Soviet Union with the participation of Swiss specialists.

According to telemetered information all systems of the Quant module are functioning normally.

Its orbit elements are:

- Maximum distance from the earth -- 320 km.
- Minimum distance from the earth -- 177 km.
- Period of revolution -- 89.2 minutes.
- Inclination -- 51.6 degrees.

The Quant astrophysical module is manoeuvred in orbit with the help of a service compartment incorporating a propulsion unit. It is to be docked with the Mir manned complex on April 5.

SPACECRAFT PROGRESS-28 MISSION 'TERMINATED'

LD280945 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 28 TASS -- The mission of the unmanned transport spaceship Progress-28, launched into a near-earth orbit on March 3, 1987, has been terminated today.

Ground control oriented the transport Spaceship and its engines were switched on at 5:59 Moscow time [0259 GMT]. The spaceship was decelerated, went into a descent trajectory, entered the dense layers of the atmosphere and burned up.

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin continue work aboard the Mir complex. Under a program for space materials studies, yesterday they carried out experiments with the Pion-M unit to study thermocapillary effects in liquid unmixing systems.

Today the crew plan another smelting operation with the Korund unit, an experiment to study the dynamics of the formation of air- and hydrosols in weightlessness and the washing and cleaning of the living quarters of the station. Time has been set aside for rest and physical exercises.

Both cosmonauts are well and in a good mood.

COSMONAUTS STUDY EFFECTS OF MICROGRAVITY

LD270759 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 26 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The two Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin have now been aboard the Mir orbital station for nearly 2 months. [passage omitted] Now, more about their research from our science correspondent Boris Belitskiy:

[Belitskiy] The crew have begun working with one such modernized instrument for studying the effects of microgravity. The instrument is called Pion-M. On the ground the growing of crystals and the production of other homogeneous materials is greatly handicapped by gravity-caused convection. While the heavier particles descend to the bottom the lighter particles rise to the surface. One might think that at the minigravity that exists in orbit nothing should prevent their uniform distribution. But no; crystals from space have also been found to have defects.

The troublemaker in this case is convection of a different kind -- thermal convection -- and the Pion-M installation makes it possible to observe how it operates. A liquid containing inclusions such as bubbles of air or powdered aluminum [as heard] is placed in a flat box with transparent walls. Light from a lamp passes through the box and through a hairline grid to reach the lens of a camera or a cine-camera. The pictures provide an insight into the thermal movement of the particles at microgravity. [passage omitted describing some shapes formed]

These data will serve to draw up recommendations for further experiments.

Another complicated installation that is now operating aboard Mir is called Korund. Aleksandr Laveykin described it in a recent television broadcast from the orbital station.

Aleksandr Laveykin explained that the installation is actually a compact and convenient pilot plant. It arrived aboard a Progress freighter and is now functioning. Korund consists of an electric furnace in which six samples can be treated consecutively and a control system involving a microcomputer. The experiments are thus performed automatically according to a program. Aleksandr Laveykin said that while he was speaking a sample was being treated in Korund to produce high-grade semiconducting materials for the radio-electronics industry. [passage omitted]

NEW NUCLEAR POWER TECHNIQUE BEING ADOPTED

LD260504 Moscow TASS in English 2250 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 26 TASS -- The reliability and safe operation of nuclear power stations [NPS] largely depends on the quality of their construction. And the quality of NPS construction is promoted above all by unification of nuclear power stations -- the use of straight-line flow methods of construction and assembly. This is why the Soviet Union, particularly after the Chernobyl accident, is adopting the straight-line flow method of the construction of nuclear power stations and of new power-generating units at the operating stations, a TASS correspondent was told by Academician Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

The use of this method in the construction of nuclear power stations was promoted by the unifying design of stations with power generating units of one million kilowatts. The unification was initially applied only to power plants, but later it spread to the whole of stations, including building structures and auxiliary premises. This made it possible to adopt the straight-line flow method of building nuclear power stations.

The Soviet Union now rates third in the world (after the USA and France) for the construction of nuclear power facilities, said Academician Petrosyants. As is known, the Soviet economy is based on plan, and nuclear power engineering holds a definite place in our plans, for other types of power stations and also built in the USSR.

The straight-line flow method of building nuclear power stations makes nuclear power stations more reliable and also makes it possible to cut considerably the time for their construction. Starting with the first station to be built by a new method, the Zaporozhye NPS, power generating units with a capacity of one million kilowatts are assembled of prefabricated structures on the construction site, in a way similar to housing construction. As a result, the first power generating unit of the Zaporozhye nuclear power station was built on a turn-key basis within four years and nine months, the highest world achievement so far, Academician Petrosyants said. The previous record was held by a French firm (five and a half years). Speed of the construction is not the decisive factor. The main thing is the station's reliability. And it is precisely ensured, above all, by the new building method, Andranik Petrosyants said.

LENINGRAD INSTITUTES JOIN COMPUTER NETWORK

LD281753 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1324 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Leningrad, 28 March (TASS) -- Many institutes and enterprises in Leningrad have acquired the possibility of directly entering international and national computer networks, such as that of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, of the IAEA, and of the Patents Information Fund in Vienna. These include the 'Mekhanobr' Institute, the 'plastpolymer' firm, and other participants in the so-called 'Akademset' [Academy/Academic network] which links the computer of the city's major scientific centers.

Professor Valentin Ponomarev, director of 'Akademset,' said, in a conversation with a TASS correspondent, that the total operational speed of this computer complex exceeds 6 million operations per second. The total memory volume is more than 2.5 trillion signs, which is equivalent to a library with tens of thousands of books. Rapid exchange of information has been accelerated by the creative search in a city where every tenth scientist in the country works.

Ponomarev underlined that links with foreign countries in the area of data processing have until now been effected only through the international center of scientific and technical information in Moscow. It is the first time individual organizations have acquired these communication channels. The scientist viewed this as demonstrating the widening independence of Soviet enterprises, which have now been given many additional rights in the export-import area.

The new technical possibilities guarantee considerable benefits for both sides. Soviet specialists are interested in rapid attainment of information from abroad and, at the same time, considerable information flow is guaranteed in return.

TASS REPORTS 'NEW-GENERATION SUPERCOMPUTER'

LD281744 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 28 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 28 TASS -- A Soviet new-generation supercomputer, Elbrus-3, can carry out several billion operations a second. The computer is about to be finished at the Moscow Institute of Precise Mechanics and Computer Technology. The machine is so fast because it relies on the "building-block" principle: It will incorporate 16 processors.

"Soviet scientists are going their own way in building supercomputers," TASS was told by institute director Gennadiy Ryabov. "Our goal is computers for the parallel processing of complex algorithms and mathematical forecasts. We structure our computers from several processors, arranged so that the greater the number of the processors, the faster the supercomputer. This principle also makes our computers dependable: If any of the processors fails, another takes over."

This principle has been tested in 10-processor supercomputers of the previous generation, which have a "cruising" speed of 125 million operations per second. The USSR uses them today to tackle major scientific problems involved in mineral surveys and the forecasting of natural processes.

Comparing the Soviet approach to that adopted abroad, Ryabov explained that today's American and Japanese computers relied on the "assembly-line" principle: Information is being processed successively by several parts of a single processor simultaneously. Such computers are intended mostly for processing homogeneous information, that is, for making simple mathematical computations. The computer relies on one processor with the maximum speed of several billion operations per second. Specialists of the U.S. Livermore Laboratory say, however, that the efficiency of such computers goes down three to six times when they tackle complex problems.

"American specialists also are attracted to the advantage of the Soviet principle," Rayabov said. "They are working on the Cray-3 computer which will use 16 processors." The fulfillment of a program recently adopted by the USSR to develop new supercomputers will make it possible substantially to upgrade Soviet computer technology in the near future, the scientist believes. A supercomputer capable of performing 10 billion operations per second and even more is now being developed. Research is being conducted into ways of improving the component base of computer technology on the basis of new materials and physical principles.

MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE ON AIDS, RESEARCH

LD272140 Moscow TASS in English 1739 GMT 27 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 27 TASS -- The Soviet Union has adopted measure which, as specialists hope, will erect a barrier in the way of the spread of AIDS, a disease first diagnosed in 1978. Academician Viktor Zhdanov told a press conference here today.

The number of AIDS sufferers exceeded 46,000 around the world, he said. But the number of its carriers was far bigger.

32 cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome were registered in the Soviet Union. Thirty of them were foreign nationals, Zhdanov disclosed.

Under the existing international contacts, this infectious disease posed a grave threat to any nation.

The effort to protect the population against AIDS covered many directions. Zhdanov said. Within a brief period of several months Soviet medical researchers developed synthetic preparations to diagnose the disease. Their commercial production was started, too.

45 laboratories were set up. Any person could have his blood tested for AIDS there. The number of such facilities would top one hundred by the year's end, and another 300 labs would be set up next year. Zhdanov said.

Certain success was achieved in the work on developing a vaccine against AIDS. Vaccination of animals -- mice and rabbits -- with an artificial vaccine showed that their blood produced a great amount of defence anti-bodies.

Nevertheless, even after an effective and safe anti-AIDS vaccine had been developed, vaccination of the entire population would not be carried out, Zhdanov explained.

"There is no need for that," he said. "A purposeful search for AIDS carriers is currently underway, chiefly among those who often contact with foreigners."

Academician Zhdanov said that the third direction in research was concentrated on synthesis of drugs. "At present we cannot cure an AIDS sufferer," he said. "But if the disease is detected at an early stage, it is in the powers of physicians to arrest its development and extend the patient's life."

Academician Rem Petrov, addressing the press conference, said that AIDS was especially dangerous because unlike other ailments of the immune system it had the ability to spread rather quickly.

"The virus of the disease is insufficiently studied. It is known that the temperature higher than 57 degrees centigrade kills the virus within a few minutes."

BRIEFS

MARS PROJECT -- The project Phobos will become the first test of a new generation of spacecraft, the construction of which is in full swing in this country. This has been reported by one of the leaders of a new international experiment on the study of Mars and its satellite Phobos, Dr Vyacheslav Kovtunencko. Two space probes to be launched in the summer of 1988 are to reach Mars after 200 days of flight. The destination of the expedition is Mars satellite Phobos. Research robots are to touch down on the surface of Phobos to transmit back to Earth its panoramic pictures and to determine the composition of its rock. The Phobos experiment involves scientists and specialists from 12 European countries and a number of international organizations. [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 30 Mar 87 LD]

PRAVDA ON GENERAL DISGRACED FOR CORRUPT DEALINGS

PM311209 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 87 Second Edition p 6

[Article by Special Correspondent Reserve Colonel V. Izgarshev under the rubric "Our Moral Values": "Tarnishing the Uniform"]

[Text] Kaliningrad, Moscow -- The rumors spread around town: "Even the military are at odds with the law, the cadets help to harvest the potatoes and the commanders divide their earnings among themselves..." Rumors may be just rumors, but nevertheless...

At the request of Viktor Vasilyevich Zhigaylo himself I read the speech that he had prepared well before the party commission session, and while I did so he did not utter a word. In his opinion the text of the speech would explain and even completely clear him of the accusations against him. Unfortunately, the 10 typewritten pages of tedious polemics with those whom my interlocutor would later call slanderers did not convey that meaning.

"Is something wrong?" he asked cautiously, and without waiting for an answer added insistently: "You understand, it is all explained here, but they did not let me speak. I just wanted to explain everything..."

Yes, the party commission members expected frankness, a principled assessment of the misdemeanors, they expected repentance, sincerity, and ultimately some sober conclusions... They got none.

Nor could they expect any, judging by his answers to their questions. Thus to all the other charges demonstrated by the party investigation the party commission session added another -- insincerity. Thank god he did not read out this speech -- they would have added even more charges! For instance, unwillingness and inability to assess his conduct critically.

...Our conversation, difficult for both of us, lasted 5 hours. "So you do not believe me? You do not believe me either?" Zhigaylo asked, a pathetic note in his voice.

Tears welled up in his eyes. He got up from the table. He was about to leave the office... You could not help but admire him: a handsome figure with the youthful bearing of a sportsman. His general's uniform fitted him like a glove. There was not a single crease in his tunic. A perfect illustration for the drill manual.

He would still have been the idol of the Kaliningrad students. He was a master of sport in wrestling. He was a candidate master in skiing. He was a parachutist. For many consecutive years he opened the sports section of the Baltic sailors' festival. All these are facets of his character portrait.

Zhigaylo became chief of the academy in 1972... Now many people are saying that this appointment was too audacious: from a junior specialists school straight to a higher engineering academy!

Furthermore, it was the oldest training institution in the country. The academy's history goes back to the time of Peter the Great. The names of the fatherland's most illustrious sons are linked with it. The graduates include D.M. Karbyshev. The Red Banner Order of Lenin Higher Engineering Academy named for A.A. Zhdanov, which gave the country 76 Heroes of the Soviet Union, moved to Kaliningrad after the war.

You will agree that it is an honor to head such an educational establishment. But it is also a supreme responsibility. Did the new chief understand this? Undoubtedly. Full of bold plans and ambitious schemes, Zhigaylo energetically set about improving the educational materials base, rightly believing that this would ensure the successful preparation of highly educated military engineers. Indeed, the lecture halls were soon modernized. And the military camp was transformed, too.

Every visitor to the academy invariably remarked on the pleasing changes. Naturally, they associated them with the new chief. A lofty order adorned his tunic and there were two general's stars on the shoulder straps of his uniform... And social recognition soon followed: The young general was elected an oblast soviet deputy and a member of the party gorkom bureau. This was no mere rise, this was a meteoric ascent!

Unfortunately, none of the responsible people who visited the academy during that ascent ever wondered: How are all these transformations being achieved? Furthermore, to tell the truth, there was no time to wonder. There were saunas, fish soup, and shashlyk -- anything you wanted. It was a time when "hospitality" was all-important...

Even now there are some who are still impressed: "Have you worked out how much money we have saved the state? The laboratories would have cost about 1.5 million to build but we did not spend a kopek..." They did not spend any money -- that is a fact. But what about the concrete, the tiles, the timber, and other construction materials! Did they appear out of thin air? Even if someone did make a "gift" of them, that does not mean that they cost nothing to produce.

Here is a small example. A couple of years ago it suddenly became clear that the boiler was about to break down. And winter was just around the corner. With the general's knowledge, Colonel I. Chernykh, the academy's deputy chief, immediately hired two moonlighters. And paid them in cash. R1,100. A tidy sum -- where did it come from? An officer's wife was hired as an engineer, also with the chief's knowledge. She, that is to say I. Chernykh, was paid R1,604.80. Chernykh gave R1,100 to the workmen. He also spent the remaining R504 on work in the boiler house, but, in truth, he cannot remember to whom specifically...

This device of creating an "unofficial" cash fund became a regular practice. That was some boiler! They held an All-Union Karbyshev youth rally at the academy's base. They were no less "inventive" then, either. They sent three cadet groups to three city enterprises. The money that they earned was allocated in one instance to three officers listed as "repair foremen" and in another instance to the wives of those selfsame officers.

Later it transpired that no money was required for the rally! The organizations which sent the Karbyshev youth to Kaliningrad met all the costs in full. And if money had been needed, would it really have been impossible to earn it honestly?

No, the "unofficial" cash fund is more convenient. The money earned by the cadets from the potato harvest also went into that fund. True, everyone is now saying, as though this were some achievement, that the money went into the state's coffers. And, to be precise, it did. But only after the law enforcement organs investigated the expenditure of money on the "Marshalskiy" sovkhos, located in the city suburbs, and discovered that R2,000 had disappeared. Only then did the chief agronomist remember that he had paid the money to a representative of the academy...

"So do you not believe me? You do not believe me either?" -- I can still hear the pathetic note in the general's voice. I did not answer Viktor Vasilyevich at that time. Indeed, what could I say? It was not my function to investigate who had disposed of the unofficial cash fund and how he had done it, who had taken what, and who had received it.

Political Department chief V. Krutov now criticizes himself in those terms. How could it have happened that no one knew, no one was in control! Someone must really have succumbed to the chief's authority and charm not to have noticed in time that he had tarnished the uniform that he wore...

Let us be open and frank, Viktor Dmitriyevich! You helped to produce those shameful phenomena. Unfortunately, the luster of your commissar's star has dimmed very much. Did you not know about the sauna? Or the hotel for high-ranking visitors? Did you not know that the young lieutenants' graduation party at the academy, held just 6 weeks after a certain CPSU Central Committee resolution had been adopted, was part of a regular program dating back years -- with vodka, brandy, and champagne? Well, it turns out that you, Zhigaylo, other academy deputy chiefs, and Lieutenant General of Engineering Troops B. Zatytkin, chairman of the state examinations commission [PRAVDA on 25 March publishes a correction noting that the author erroneously named Lt Gen B.V. Zatytkin instead of Lt Gen M.G. Kushnikov as chairman of this commission] were out of range of the lieutenants' vision -- at the reinforced concrete products plant's recreation center out of town. And you took with you the leadership's due ration of alcohol from the "commander's" table at the graduation party...

Did you not know either that some obliging staff members found a specious excuse to dismiss Communist officer V. Pimenov, who "dared" to criticize the academy chief at a party aktiv meeting?!

Furthermore, whereas there was much that the political section chief did not know about, the commissar's star shone so faintly that its light was sometimes not even to be seen in the political section. Or even at the primary party organization to which Krutov belong. Otherwise, he would not have been given the following party reference, signed by Lieutenant Colonel S. Chistyakov, secretary of the party bureau: "Fails to show proper persistence and principle -- which has led to a large number of complaints to superior organizations and the creation of an unhealthy atmosphere in the academy..."

Thus the political section chief did not notice that the uniform had been tarnished by Zhigaylo, who was not noted for any special principle himself, unfortunately.

Such was the situation that took shape in the academy. On the one hand, it was quite common for the monitoring of Gen Zhigaylo's activity by his immediate superiors to be lax, to put it mildly, and for exactingness to be lacking and connivance shown between them; on the other, neither the political section nor the primary party organization exerted any influence on the academy chief's actions and conduct. In this atmosphere, in which openness was completely absent, Zhigaylo chose the path of violating party, state, and military discipline.

Sycophants, toadies, and lickspittles appeared among his entourage. The chief and his wife had a 40-square meter apartment: quite small, not befitting his rank! With the local authorities' blessing they moved into a 60-square meter apartment in a "prestigious" bloc. Very modest! The Military Publishing House brought out a book on the academy's history. Under the editorship of Candidate of Military Sciences and Senior Lecturer General V. Zhigaylo (as the title page said). [paragraph continues]

The book contained 7 photographs of the chief, 10 mentions of his name, and a long quote from... a report to a meeting. But even that was not enough. They had a multiple cover printed locally. The first page had a signed portrait of the editor, the second a group of photograph with, in the center, Zhigaylo's face again...

Well, let us summarize events. Although, to be more accurate, this was done for us by the party commission of the Ground Forces Political Directorate. It expelled Lt Gen V. Zhigaylo from the party. He was removed from the academy's command. And Major General V. Krutov, chief of the political section, was severely reprimanded and had his party card endorsed.

In 40 years of army service I have seen everything. The army is a microcosm of society. And in its strong and healthy ranks you find, unfortunately, some who are by no means the best representatives of the people. But philistines reading through the Gen Zhigaylo story should not be too quick to see anything "juicy" and say: That's what goes on in the army...

I am sure that anyone who has ever served or who is serving now in the Armed Forces will say that they think of military service as embodying a fine sense of comradeship with people obeying a lofty duty, indestructible soldierly fraternity, a heartfelt sense of patriotism, and personal involvement in resolving the tasks of paramount importance entrusted to the motherland's soldiers.

April's vivifying winds of restructuring now prevail in the army. They are helping to purge the military system of everything superficial and alien to the very nature of a socialist state's army. And thus alien to the all-around enhancement of the Armed Forces' combat readiness.

GSFG JURISTS CONFER ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

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[Lieutenant Colonel of Justice N. Rudenko report: "Conference of Military Jurists"]

[Text] A conference of military jurists, held in the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany [GSFG], has discussed the tasks of law enforcement organs in the group in fulfilling the demands of the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Further Strengthening Socialist Legality and Law and Order and Stepping Up the Protection of Citizens' Rights and Legitimate Interests."

The conference speakers -- Lieutenant General N. Moiseyev, member of the Military Council and chief of the GSFG Political Directorate; Major General of Justice A. Perepelitsa, military prosecutor of the GSFG; and Maj Gen of Justice Yu. Tretyakov, chairman of the GSFG Military Tribunal -- analyzed the activity of law enforcement organs and the work of commanders, political workers, and staffs to implement party demands.

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